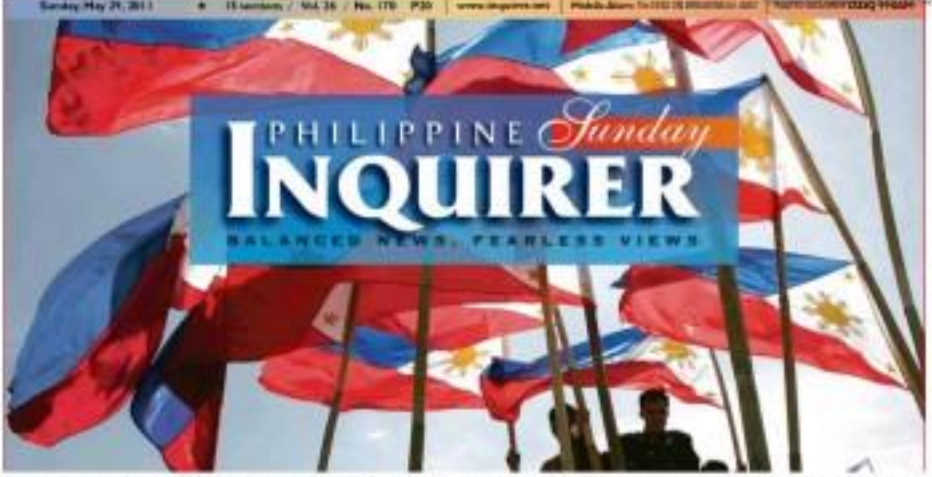
Sunday, May 29, 2011 | 16 sections / Vol. 35 / No. 170 / P30 | www.inquirer.net

PHILIPPINE Sunday INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS



FOR FLAG AND COUNTRY Flag-bearer in duo-tones to double-photo, stirring pride in Filipino hearts. National Flag Day was celebrated yesterday, commemorating the waving of the tricolor in Cartas City by Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo. It mark the victory of Filipinos on that day in the Battle of Alapan in Imus, Cavite.

# Customs chief faces ax

## P-Noy may name party mate to replace Alvarez

By Norman Bordadora and Philip C. Tubeza

COMMISSIONER Angelito Alvarez may be removed as chief of the Bureau of Customs (BOC) as a result of the controversy involving smuggled vehicles and motorcycles in the South, according to a source close to President Aquino.

The source said Alvarez might be replaced by former Commerce Undersecretary Vicente Chato or former Cagayan Rep. Manuel Mamba, both Liberal Party stalwarts.

"Perhaps he'll no longer be there in July," the source, a Palace official, said of Alvarez. The source added that he not be named for lack of authority to speak with the media on deliberations in Mr. Aquino's official family.

Sought yesterday for comment, Alvarez said he was prepared to go if the President wished to replace him. But he

CONTINUED A2

## The other De Lima breaks MAP's sex barrier

By Dante L. Luna
Reporter

THAT DUMMYMAN Ronnie S. del Rosario Jr. was named Management Man of the Year for 2010 by the Management Association of the Philippines (MAP) was no surprise to the people who follow developments in the local business scene.

After all, "Boy Bitay," as his friends call the man, has been at the helm of Philam Inc. for many years now. And he managed to earn renewal for the tenure of one of the country's oldest and most established industrial houses after the 1997 East Asian financial crisis.

He is also known as a patient who led the Makati Business Club for many years, outside the previous administration's circle of influence, for big, rolled, unsuccessfully, for then President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to step down in

THE PEOPLE A4

## MMDA makes smokers' world smaller each day

By Frendegar Esdaloz

SMOKERS, BEWARE. The next cigarette stick could cost you P500.

The fifth-option Manila Development Authority (MMDA) will start smoking on Monday smokers puffing away in public places within the perimeter of Metro Manila's major and secondary roads.

MMDA Chair Francis Tolentino said the 17,000 anyone and municipal councils agreed to intensify the authority's no-smoking drive, ordering its troopers across the entire metropolis. The MMDA

PHOTOS, A2 ▸

## Habitat: Youngsters build homes for a day

By Hector Cinco
Inquirer Southern Luzon

CALAMBA, Laguna—Danielynne Reyes, 23, had to put down the can of paint she was carrying and take off her work gloves in order to talk. She needed both hands to express her thoughts in sign language.

She said she wanted to help during the event when they had to paint their own homes. But it was her first time to paint houses for other people," said teacher Bea Gonzales who interpreted for the hearing-impaired Reyes.

Reyes was one of the 60 students from the School of Deaf Education and Applied Studies of the De La Salle College of St. Benilde that took part yesterday in the "Bida-Linaw" campaign of the Habitat for Humanity Philippines (HFHP) to help high school and college students in building homes as a government relocation site here.

YOUNG volunteers take a breather from building homes for the poor under the "15 for 1 Day" of Habitat for Humanity in Calauan, Laguna.

Reyes' family had to leave their home in Bulacan and move in with her grandmother in Manila to be closer to school. Her father, who was employed as a security guard, passed away in 2005. The family is being supported by a sister who works in the United States, having been brought there by a restaurant chain that she had started working for in the Philippines.

Reyes' mother had told Inquirer in a happy shout relocating to Manila because at least the family is together.

"She said that's more than relocating, that's what's important," said Francisco.

This was the message that Reyes conveyed to the families who had to relocate from the Bahura de Pasig in Manila but who will soon be occupying the houses that she and other volunteers had painted yesterday.

GRAPHICS A17

## Rizal at 150: In visit to HK prison, he saw oppression

By Bryan Anthony C. Peralta
Correspondent

*Editor's Note: The author is the director for life of the National Historical Commission of the Philippines.*

HUMAN RIGHTS activists say that incarceration in Philippine jails no matter how brief, is in itself a cruel sentence, with countless—the majority—jailed men, that is—forced to live in misery and squalor.

Shocking statistics of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology corroborate this view—83,000 convicts occupy a mere 18% person jails nationwide.

It's like we were still in the late 19th century, when prisoners everywhere were known for their dismal and inhuman conditions, with prisoners often shackled with weights on their ankles and confined to a living death.

During his brief stay in Hong Kong in 1892, Jose Rizal accompanied his Portuguese friend, Dr. Lorenzo Marques, on a medical visit to Victoria Gaol, the city's penitentiary. Because Marques was the

MEDIA, A9

## Balangay romance: Love blooms at sea for mountain lover, prof

By Jeffrey M. Tupas
Inquirer Mindanao

SEE LOVE affair with the mountains is beyond doubt. Having spent most of his life studying the most remote mountain ranges—by sea with a seasoned lover can do—to the previous forests and sacred caves that had remained inaccessible for centuries.

Until quite recently, Ferdinand, a 50-year-old experienced mountain climber, lived a life entirely devoted to the mountains.

But what he has shaken off his passion for high places, but Ferd has found a new love.

It is ironic that after more than three decades of conquering mountain peaks here and abroad, Ferd would find his new love waiting for him to set foot in Zamboanga City.

And it was all thanks to—the Philippine Balangay Boat Project, which last year took replicas of the historic pre-colonial vessel on a 10

MINDANAO A10

ACROSS
- Who's afraid of Tanging?

WORLD
- Yemen on the brink

BUSINESS
- Savar lifugaro life for P1,200

SHOWBIZ
- The man who ate everything

ENTERTAINMENT
Deco's decade
Actor hopes to bridge divide between indie and mainstream

LIFESTYLE
- Surprise: people don't want to be nosey about P-Noy's love life
- Pangasinan's secret getaways—yes, there's more than one

Second FRONTPAGE

WEATHER FORECAST

| 2-D | |
|---|---|
| 1 PM | 13 29 |
| 4 PM | 2 20 |
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| SIX DIGIT |
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| SUPERLOTTO 6/45 |
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| 6/55 GRAND LOTTO |
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| P317,234,378.80 |

| 4-D | |
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| 7 PM | 3 9 7 |

# 'Damaged coral area much bigger'

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE HOOOC wrought by poachers on coral reefs off southern Mindoro is "much worse" than earlier estimated, according to a ranking environment official.

Theresa Mundita Lim, director of the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), said yesterday that the damaged area could reach "almost five times the size" of Manila and not just almost twice its size as initial reports said.

Environment officials had said that poachers damaged a reef complex almost twice the size of the city of Manila when they harvested more than 21,000 pieces of black coral and killed 161 endangered turtles and other marine life that the Bureau of Customs intercepted.

Lim said that the DENR was preparing to file charges against Emigdio Barcarse, the consignee of the contraband, and the other persons that Sinvets named as responsible for the poaching and the smuggling attempt.

"We will file the charges against those responsible for this as soon as possible. We won't let them get away with this," she said.

### Five times Manila's land area

Lim added: "Our initial estimate was that it was twice the area of Manila but we validated this with a renowned expert on reef corals who is now in the country and he said that the area was much bigger."

She said Gary Williams of the California Academy of Sciences estimated that the area damaged or destroyed could reach up to 1,900 square kilometers, or five times Manila's land area of 366.55 sq/km.

Lim described Williams as a world-renowned expert on corals whose research had brought him to the Galápagos Islands, Patagonia, southern Africa, the Russian far East, Antarctica and the sub-Arctic.

"He is now in the country conducting a survey on Sardine Reserve," Lim said.

Lim said Sinvets was in the custody of the BOC and had revealed who were behind the poaching and smuggling attempt.

### Names to be released tomorrow

"The BOC is supposed to release their names (Sinvets officials) and we will work on that to file the charges before the prosecutors," Lim said.

She explained that the Supreme Court in 2009 designated special courts to handle environmental cases to expedite their resolution. "We will charge them for violating the Wildlife Act and the Fisheries Code," Lim said.

She said that Sen. Juan Miguel Zubiri, chair of the Senate committee on the environment, will inspect the confiscated black coral and dead turtles on Monday in the port of Manila.

Afterwards, the snelled turtles would be brought to the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife while the black corals would be taken to the storage facility of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Lim said.

# P-Noy orders probe of PLDT, Digitel merger

By Norman Bordadora

PRESIDENT Aquino has ordered the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) to look into any undue advantage a merged Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT) and Digitel may have over other players in the telecom industry.

Saying that limited competition would result in a near monopoly in the telecom sector, the President noted that monopolies were inherently inefficient and asserted that his administration would look after the interests of the public, phone subscribers in particular in this case.

"There are complaints from other players in the telecom sector. There are many technical aspects on it here so I asked the NTC and DOST to look into the allegations," Mr. Aquino said on his arrival from Thailand Friday night.

"The position that I remember has to deal with the allowed frequencies being adjacent to each other providing an unfair advantage. It means that costs will presently be as cut by this purported merger that everybody else would be able to compete," he added.

The President said he had received a document "half an inch thick" that detailed the observations and complaints of the other telephone companies about the merger.

"I am waiting for the (NTC and DOST to come up with their findings on whether or not it will limit competition," Mr. Aquino said.

"I was in school when I was first taught that monopolies were inherently inefficient. At the end of the day, what will benefit most Filipinos should be the policy of this administration. Should it be used well be," he added.

# Another Sino official assures PH on Spratlys

By Tina Santos

A TOP Chinese official has made the assurance that the Philippine-China territorial dispute over the Spratly islands will not adversely affect relations between the two countries.

The confidence words were uttered by Jiang Shenlong, vice chair of the 11th National People's Congress of China, to Vice President Jejomar Binay when he paid a courtesy call on the latter on Friday.

Jiang's visit follows that of China's defense minister, Gen. Liang Guanglie.

Binay said his meeting with Jiang touched briefly on the Spratlys issue and that both agreed that incidents occurred in the South Sea should not become a threat to bilateral relations.

He said Jiang supported President Aquino's call to settle the issue peacefully through talks.

"We should keep a friendly atmosphere and in handling this situation, we should always keep in mind the relationship between our countries and our peoples," Jiang said in a statement.

The Spratlys, a reputedly oil-rich chain of islands and reefs, is claimed wholly or in part by the Philippines, China, Malaysia, Brunei, Vietnam and Taiwan.

China has insisted it has sovereignty over the entire archipelago—which the Chinese call Nansha Islands but which everyone else refers to as the Spratlys—and is moved to "enforce" its claim from time to time by flexing its military muscle in the area.

### Jets intrude with impunity

The most recent incident was reported last week on the eve of the arrival in Manila of Liang Guanyue jet fighters had reportedly intruded into Philippine airspace in the vicinity of Reed Bank, part of the Kalayaan group of islands in the Spratlys but the Philippines claims.

Initial reports said the fighters were Chinese, but the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) said it was still validating the report even as it conceded that it had no capability to detect and intercept the jets.

In March, two Chinese vessels reportedly harassed a Philippine exploration ship at Reed Bank, prompting the AFP to send planes and Coast Guard ships to the area.

Malacañang had earlier said that the Philippines and China had agreed to hold dialogues on the disputed islands in the South China Sea following a meeting between President Aquino and Liang.

Mr. Aquino said he reiterated the Philippines' position that countries in the region should focus on regional prosperity to ease the tensions caused by the rival claims of China and Southeast Asian countries over the Spratlys group.

Binay took the opportunity to ask Jiang about the status of the proposed "exchange of economic prisoners by the two countries," but he said there no announcement was given by the Chinese official as the proposal was still being reviewed.

The Chinese government in late March executed three Filipinos arrested in China on drug trafficking charges.

The Vice President said that China was looking forward to expanding trade and economic relations with the Philippines, and promoting high-level visits between Manila and Beijing.

## Vietnam has own row with China

HANOI—Vietnam has accused China of "violating" its marine sovereignty and mounting a new row over disputed areas of the South China Sea after Chinese ships damaged a Petrol Vietnam exploration boat, state media reported.

The Vietnamese Foreign Ministry called on Beijing to prevent any further incidents within what it described as its exclusive economic zone and to provide compensation, Vietnam News Agency said on Friday.

Hanoi said three Chinese marine surveillance vessels approached a ship operated by the state oil and gas firm PetroVietnam and cut its exploration cables.

A complaint to the Chinese embassy in Hanoi said the incident "seriously violated Vietnam's sovereignty" and a 1982 United Nations convention on the law of the sea.

It also "went against the spirit" of a 2002 agreement between China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Beijing and Hanoi have a long-standing dispute in the South China Sea over sovereignty over the Paracel archipelago and the more southerly Spratlys islands group, both potentially resource-rich rocky outcrops that straddle strategic shipping lanes.

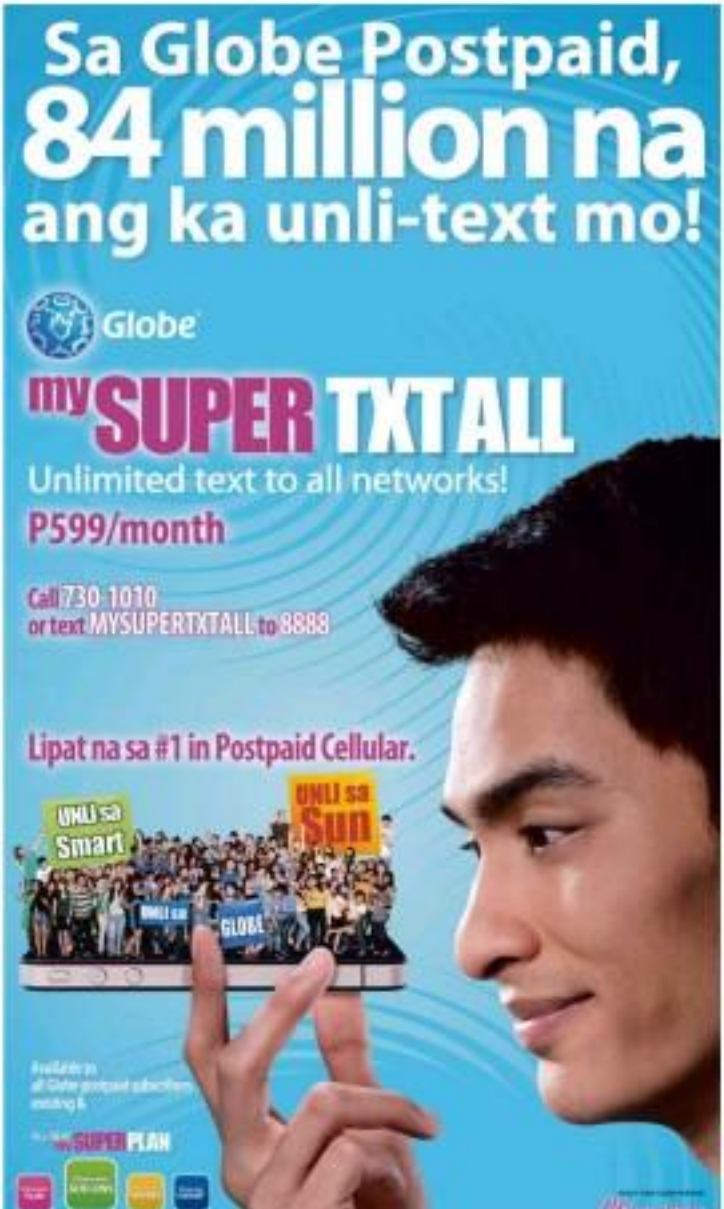
The area where the latest incident allegedly occurred is between the two island chains.

Vietnam has reported numerous cases of fishing boats and equipment being seized by China in disputed areas since 2009.

China's increasingly assertive role in the South China Sea has raised tensions with other countries in the region as well as the United States.

The Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia and Taiwan also claim all or part of the Spratlys.

President Aquino recently warned that further incidents around the archipelago could potentially spark an arms race, fearing his country is lacking in military. AFP



# Fierce Senate debate on resetting ARMM polls seen

What is God Saying About the RH Bill?

Free reading, personal interpretation, light impartation. Give us a very powerful declaration of God's promise and He is obligated to do it all.

Go to Fax This Home Page search god's message for the philippines in email name & mobile to godsword@yahoo.com. Or text name & email address to 09153961284. We will email you the writing & for more messages.

By TJ Burgonio

AN INTENSE debate over the bill seeking the postponement of the Aug. 8 elections to the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) looms in the Senate as with the impending release of a committee report adverse to the measure.

President Aquino's allies in Congress, however, remain confident they could muster the votes to approve Senate Bill 2750 and House Bill 4146 before Congress adjourns on June 8.

"Oh yes, I expect a debate in the Senate," said Sen. Jinky Ayroyo in an interview. "Whether or not it could be voted upon or finished depends on the length and intensity of the debates."

Sen. Ferdinand Marcos Jr., who had indicated that the local government committee which he chairs would submit a report adverse to the bill, will first himself amped against author Sen. Franklin Drilon and "a good number of senators" who back the bill.

Marcos had said that "the bill's "assault" on the ARMM people's right of suffrage and its disregard of the region's autonomy had alarmed the committee. He said the bill would scrap the elections to allow Malacañang to simply "handpick their next leaders."

Since President Aquino had certified it as urgent during a Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council meeting, Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile was expected to support the bill.

Marcos' submission of an adverse committee report is anticipated by some of his colleagues, and is expected to cause a "complication" in the legislative process—the archiving of the bill.

That's why the Senate is set to hold a caucus tomorrow to discuss the issue development, keeping in mind its deadline of June 8, Drilon said.

According to Drilon, there were two options available under Senate rules.

If the bill is archived, five senators could move for its recall and have it calendared for ordinary business, paving the way for a debate and vote.

Or the bill could be placed in the calendar of ordinary business, sponsored and submitted for amendments, and a senator could move to have the committee report amended in favor of the measure.

Either way, Drilon, who along with Senators Francis Pangilinan, Ralph Recto and Teofisto Guingona III, is PNP Aquino's party-mate, said duty had to be undone as opposed.

"I feel a reasonable chance of passing," Drilon said in an interview. "I'm reasonably optimistic that we have the votes to pass it."

Senate Majority Leader Vicente Sotto III said he had "a good number" of the 23 senators support the administration measure postponing the elections until holding it with the May 2013 local and nationwide midterm elections.

"If they have the majority, the committee's report can be overturned," Sotto said.

Marcos is set to submit his committee's report on Tuesday afternoon after holding a final hearing in the morning. The senator said he expects four senators-Joker Arroyo, Miriam Defensor-Santiago, Pia Cayetano and Antonio Trillanes IV-to back the committee report.

Drilon said the senators should agree during the caucus to "limit the debates" and put it to a vote.

"If there will be some senators who would insist on a lengthy debate, we can't do anything about it. But there must be a consensus to shorten the debates, and let's vote on it," he said.

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Theres's a HERO in all of us.

The Filipino soldier plays an important role as protector of our country's peace and sovereignty. Sadly, their service to the country can sometimes cost them their very lives. When they are killed in action (KIA) or become incapacitated in the line of duty, their families suffer the loss of both a loved one and family breadwinner.

HERO stands for Help, Educate, and Rear Orphans. It was formed in 1990 by former President Corazon C. Aquino and then AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Renato De Villa, who called on the business community to respond to the growing needs of the families our "heroes" have left behind. Since then, the foundation has been providing educational stipends to military orphans. The financial support has kept orphans in school as it covers much needed requirements such as school supplies, transportation, meals and even a portion of their tuition fee.

Today, the foundation is managed by a Board of Trustees whose members are likewise active business leaders who believe in HERO's advocacy.

For 23 years now, the foundation has not wavered in its commitment to provide educational support to the children of our soldiers and ensure that they have a better chance at a brighter future. To date, the foundation has provided educational support worth P98M since 1990 to a total of 814 scholars with 644 graduates, some completing at doctors, lawyers, engineers and soldiers too. HERO hopes to be able to accommodate more orphans in the near future.

A Treat for HERO kids at Tribecon

Jack Boyet Padilla and other HERO scholars were invited to a motorcycle summer vacation event hosted by Tribecon Philippines Football team as they were invited to join Tribecon's Sagip Sakay and the Young Bucaneers as a token of appreciation.

Leomhar's journey without 'Tatay'

This is Leomhar Padocon. He is a HERO Scholar. When he was 6 months old his father was ambushed in an encounter in Nueva Ecija in 1998. At an early age, Leomhar experienced the pains of losing a parent and witnessed the anxiety of his mother in refocus shoulders felt the burden of sustaining the family. Leomhar became a HERO scholar in 2004. Today, he is a successful technical and Safety Engineer in Liquigaz Philippines Corporation and a living testimony that a bright future awaits military orphans who value their education.

Leomhar with mother, Teresita Padocon

Business Groups respond to the call

Several business groups gathered recently to recognize their donation and especially their support to HERO Foundation. Ayala Land, Inc. (ALI), The Bull Runner (TBR-Dream Marathon at MUNAL) Funders, ICAP Phils., Inc. and RUNNEX raised over 1.5 million pesos through individual donations and various benefit activities. The amount to be added to support 160 HERO scholars in the college level through stipends that cover their daily needs in school and subsist them through the school year.

Shown in the photo from left to right: Antonio J. Aquino Jr., Ayala Land VP and HERO Board Member; Ronaldo B. Ventic, AVP-Int'l. HERO Executive Director - Operations; Nestor L. Elvina, ICAP Phils., Inc. President; Antonio T. Aquino, ALI President and CEO and HERO Founder; Wenceslao Manuel, ICAP Phils., Inc. Senior Executive; Jaymie Pineda, the ALI runner inspired scholar-intern; Angelo S. Reyes, Karrie Gil, Jorge Mayor T. Mario, ALI Corporate Communications Head and Mobile Chair, MVP, Director of Marketing and Operations Division

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# Customs chief faces ax

From page A1

blamed "vested interests" here by his co-heirs at the BOC for going after him.

Another Malacañang official confirmed that the head of the government's second-largest revenue-collecting agency could be removed, but not just yet.

"Gen Alvarez is in play, but it's not a done deal," said the official who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the subject.

A Senate official familiar with the issue hinted that the team of Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima was busy making a case for Mr. Aquino to retain Alvarez.

"There cannot have been seized since July [of last year]," the Finance official said. "What's important for us is that the BOC's cash collections have been growing by double digits."

The official also pointed out that, while speculation about changes in the Cabinet was in vogue nowadays, the finance team was "focused on delivering results."

## P-Noy dissatisfied

In a recent interview in Davao City the President expressed dissatisfaction over the way the BOC had been performing despite its increased revenues.

He questioned how vehicles could have been smuggled undetected into the country when the BOC was supposedly guarding against such activities.

He said there would be changes to improve the bureau's performance.

"We are constantly reviewing, with Secretary Purisima, the performance of the [BOC]. And if you look at the data, the collections have really increased," the President said. "But I'm not satisfied."

Mr. Aquino lamented that it took till midnoon there to alert the Philippine government on the smuggling going on.

"Here in Mindanao, we had the issue of smuggled vehicles and motorcycles, and the first statement from Customs was that they didn't know how [the vehicles] got here," Mr. Aquino said in reference to the controversy triggered by the recovery of a P3.4-million Martha Stewart shopper stolen from Hollywood screenwriter Skip Woods.

"Of course, they were the warehouse of those goods. How come they didn't know what happened after the event? Why did it have to take foreigners to tell us that there crimes are happening here," Mr. Aquino said, adding:

"We have been discussing ways that are supposed to improve the [BOC] service. Report to ... in about two months to make known the changes."

On Friday night, the President said one Cabinet official might get a new assignment if issues confronting his agency were not resolved.

But Alvarez is of sub-Cabinet rank, the BOC being under Purisima's jurisdiction.

## At P-Noy's pleasure

Alvarez said that "in this line of work, you're living for the day."

"If it pleases the President that I should go, then I commit to anything," he said. "I serve at the pleasure of the President. If it's time, then I'll let go."

Alvarez said Mr. Aquino had yet to speak with him, but added that he had also heard talk that Finance Chair would be tapped to replace him.

Minister-Chairs is a before commissioner of the Bureau of Internal Revenue. Montes was the chair of the Senate committee on the South Luzon Growth Quadrangle and vice chair of the House committee on agrarian reform and on national defense.

Alvarez said his job "is one of the hardest posts in government."

"Many of my predecessors stayed only an average of eight months. But an Secretary Purisima asked, I've been here for three quarters," he said.

Alvarez said certain quarters had been waging a hate campaign against him for his reforms at the BOC.

"We've been filing cases every Thursday [at the Department of Justice], and that has been among our true vested interests but also powerful politicians," he said.

He said the BOC filed the cases although it meant going against vested interests in oil, food and other industries and their allied politicians.

## Level playing field

Alvarez said he had made changes at the BOC from the earlier setup when "only eight brokers control the business."

"If you level the playing field, our service will be glad but there are others who won't be happy," he said.

Alvarez said that he had also initiated changes against customs officials involved in smuggling, and that they had likewise gone after him.

"Because of our efforts, the BOC went down in the corruption index from No. 2 to No. 3, our collection went up by P63-billion although the tariffs on many goods have gone down," he said. "But they went after me as if I'm a politician in Davao, they even printed leaflets saying that I should be fired."

Alvarez said the biggest case leveled at him was the issue of the "box cars" that was recently exposed. But he insisted that the smuggling case happened before he assumed customs chief.

According to Alvarez, he was preparing to resign from the private sector when he was tapped to head the BOC.

He said that Guillermo Parayno, a past customs chief, was then set to be appointed. "But that did not push through, and so Secretary Purisima called me and said I should take the job," he said.

"When tell me 'Sonny, up,' then I'll let go. I can say that I did my share. I could go back to the private sector or maybe take a vacation," he added.

The customs post was one of the last major positions to be filled by the President on his own.

Purisima's first choice for the post was Sonny Sonny, who was heavily favored by the business community and backed by the Liberal Party. But according to sources at that time, Sonny fell victim to the infighting within the "Samar" and "Balay" factions in the Palace. With a report from Jaymee C. Anam

# *Cabinet guessing game: Who will go?*

By Norman Bordadora

THE CABINET officials who did not meet President Aquino at the airport on Friday night can rest easy that they will not be removed, according to his spokesperson, Edwin Lacierda.

"I think the Cabinet secretaries who didn't go to the airport can all breathe a sigh of relief," Lacierda said in jest when asked yesterday if he expected meeting the President upon the latter's arrival from a state visit to Thailand.

"Sino kaya, if sino ba ang pupunta sa kanya? Sino ba ang sasalubong sa kanya? Sino ba ang hindi sasalubong sa kanya? Sino ba ang hindi sasalubong sa kanya?" he said.

Speaking with reporters at the airport, Mr. Aquino said there could be a Cabinet reshuffle. He said an official could be reassigned if issues in the official's agency were not resolved.

He also said that the official was among those at the airport.

Lacierda said that prior to Mr. Aquino's departure for Bangkok on Thursday, "there was no indication at all" that he was displeased with the performance of a member of his Cabinet.

"I suppose the President is keeping his cards close to his chest on this one," Lacierda said. "He will be made clear in the coming days."

The President was explaining to reporters what had made him decide to make permanent the appointments of three eminent secretary Ramon Paje and Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo when he disclosed the possibility of changes to the Cabinet.

He drew screaming Paje and Robredo has drawn praise from him, Jokes Aquino.

"That's a very good decision on the part of the President," Aquino-Paje said the reporter.

He said Paje was "a very good choice," and Robredo was "in for the position of local government secretary."

Aquino also said the permanent appointments of Paje and the impending confirmation of career ambassadors suggested well for the career service.

"The President should be commended for promoting the career service. In other words, the appointments are not political," he said. READ: a report from TJ Burgonio


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# House to probe Leviste caper should DOJ fall short

By Cynthia D. Balana

CONGRESS will conduct its own investigation into the reported unauthorized trips out of prison of ex-Batangas Gov. Antonio Leviste should the findings of the Department of Justice (DOJ) be "unsatisfactory," Bayan Muna party-list Rep. Neri Colmenares said yesterday.

Colmenares said the government should put a stop to prison scandals such as the Leviste caper and other similar cases.

"We will call for a congressional investigation if the DOJ investigation is unsatisfactory," Colmenares said in a text message.

He said the DOJ should call former Bureau of Corrections director Honorio Santiago and Oscar Calderon to shed light on the supposed talks they had received from Mateo Guinigundo in behalf of certain inmates.

Santiago was quoted as saying that powerful politicians had pressured prison officials to grant privileges to some influential detainees at the New Bilibid Prison (NBP) when he was in charge.

### First Gentleman called him

Santiago, a retired military general who also served as director of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, said on Thursday that former First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo once called him to ease prison regulations for former inmate Reynaldo Dap of Misamis Occidental who was confirmed to life imprisonment for murder.

At the case of Calderon, the DOJ said it would summon him to explain how and why "special cover" were given "sleep-out" or "living out" privileges at the NBP.

### Even before Leviste

Colmenares said the "999 loot mafia" certain prisoners received had been going on even before the Leviste incident.

"I would like to see the recommendations of the DOJ and the Department of Interior and Local Government based on their respective investigations, but if we are not satisfied with the results, we will file a resolution to investigate the cases," he said.

Bohol Rep. Niel Tupas Jr., chair of the House justice committee, earlier decided to defer its investigation of the Leviste incident and wait for the DOJ findings.

Tupas said the committee would focus on other prison scandals such as the alleged drug trade inside the NBP.

Pep. Sherwin Tugna of the Citizens' Battle Against Corruption (Cibac) party-list group said the Bureau of Corrections "has always been a corruption-ridden agency."

"The burden of proof is now upon Sulco. I would venture to say it's up set of heaven that the scandal of VIP prisoners was exposed. The agency is now in the spotlight and will be forced to clean up its act," he said.

"The exposé is a kick in the butt, to put it bluntly," Tugna said.

He said the Bureau should "come and fix all the rot and bad things."

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# Lagman: When life begins irrelevant

THE CONTENTIOUS issue of when life begins is not relevant to the proposed reproductive health (RH) law, according to Minority Leader Rep. Edcel Lagman.

Lagman, principal sponsor of the RH bill (consolidation/pending measure) debate in the House of Representatives, was reacting to a proposal of anti-RH bill opponents to settle the question of when life begins in line with the Catholic Church's view that some contraceptives are "abortifacients."

Considered Lagman: "The issue of when life begins is a non-issue with respect to the use of contraceptives because the mechanism of injectibles, for example, is to prevent ovulation. If there is no ovulation, there is no fertilization, no conception, no fetus."

He said in an interview this came hold true for other mechanisms of birth control such as condoms and intrauterine devices (IUDs) which prevent a sperm cell from fertilizing an egg from the ovum.

"Again, if there is no fertilization, there is no conception, no fetus," Lagman said, adding that people do not expect the courts to answer the question of when life begins because even theology experts were not unanimous about it.

### No constitutional ban

At any rate, Lagman said, there is no constitutional provision that prohibits the manufacture, distribution, sale and use of contraceptives.

Also, there has been no test case wherein a couple or a woman sued administrators of pills and other contraceptives for violating a provision who prescribed pills for abortion, he said.

"There, because that's impossible. There is no fetus being expelled or terminated in contraceptives. Abortion has been defined as expulsion of a fetus," Lagman said.

Zambales Rep. Mitagros Magsaysay said that those opposed to the RH bill like herself should not be limited for the strong religious perspective in the RH debate.

### End up with religious

"We have different legislators who will subscribe(to) to the bill), and we will all end up translating it from a secular to a religious because we are so persons molded by who we are and where we were born, (so) religious beliefs and convictions. They will always come up," Magsaysay said.

Lagman earlier said he would no longer answer repetitive questions stating, inexplicitness, especially those that question the RH proponents' religious beliefs.

On the website put up by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) to campaign for the rejection of the RH bill Lagman said it was within the Catholic hierarchy's right to say anything it wished as long as it was within the bounds of law.

"They have the right to have that website but they should be well-supported resources so as to have such resources or false propaganda," he added.

Although Catholics are opposed to the RH bill, other religious such as the Iglesia Ni Kristo, the Iglesia Filipina Independiente, and Evangelical, Methodist, Adventist and Episcopal denominations and some Muslim groups have endorsed the RH bill, Lagman had said earlier. Cynthia D. Balana


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# 260,000 kg of smuggled onions seized

By Philip C. Tubeza

CUSTOMS Commissioner Angelito Alvarez on Friday ordered the seizure of some 26,000 bags of onions that were smuggled into the country from India and China.

Alvarez said customs intelligence and investigation operatives found the onions, which weighed 260,000 kilograms and were worth around P3b million, in a cold storage facility in Meycauayan City on Saturday.

"The smuggled onions could have arrived unchecked in at least 16 40-foot containers," Alvarez said in a statement.

He directed the Bureau of Customs' Run After Smuggler Group to conduct a thorough investigation and "unmask the people behind this smuggling attempt, including customs employees in collusion with the smugglers."

He said the agency learned about the **contraband of red and white onions from** Rodolfo M. Nieves, former chair of the **Kamanggagawa ng mga Gumaburong Magsasakyan** ng Nueva Ecija Brotherhood.

**The seizure came a day after eight containers of white onions were confiscated by customs officials in Davao.** (See story in Across the Nation, Page A15).

**Customs Intelligence and Investigation** Service Director Fidelmario Florencio Jr. said **they were still trying to identify the consignees of the contraband**, although the cold storage warehouse in Meycauayan where the onions were found belonged to a trading company.

He identified the company as Tianlong **Trading at Sterling Compound, Barangay** Iba, Meycauayan City.

**Customs said Tianlong Trading failed to** present evidence of payment of duties and taxes for the onions.

Atom Lincoln, Tianlong Trading secretary, **also failed to produce phyto sanitary inspection** certificate from the countries of origin **and plant quarantine clearance** from the Bureau of Plant Industry, he added.

**Alvarez commended Viernes, intelligence Officer Ben Pablo and other customs intelligence officials for foiling the smuggling attempt.**

**Kasunod also praised them "for preventing** the entry into the food market of some 220 metric tons of onions which should come as a welcome development for local onion growers who have long been complaining of unfair competition from imported onions."

# Chemical in food from Taiwan eyed

THE GOVERNMENT is closely monitoring **food products and additives imported from** Taiwan that might contain a chemical that **could be harmful when taken in high doses**, a health official said yesterday.

**Director Eduardo R. Lance of the Food and** Drug Administration said the food products may have been contaminated with the chemical di-(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP).

"The Taiwan government has informed the Department of Health that a company may have exported to the Philippines food products containing additives contaminated with DEHP," Lance said in a statement.

"Efforts to trace the local counterpart of this company are currently in progress," he added.

Widely used in the manufacture of plastics, DEHP was "found to have been illegally added" to a food product raw material intended for emulsification in Taiwan, Lance said.

He said that while low doses of DEHP were generally safe, high doses or prolonged exposure could have harmful effects.

Children are specially prone to the harmful effects of high doses of DEHP or to repeated exposure which could lead to testicular defects, fertility problems and cancers in kidneys, she added. Philip C. Tubeza


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# Rizal at 150: In visit to HK prison, he saw oppression

From page A1

prison physician, Rizal was welcomed and allowed to share lively. And like any other visitor, he recorded his observations in the prison.

He described the cells as "dark, damp and unventilated." Each cell, he wrote, was "a kind of prison in the prison."

He described the inmates as "the color of Bass ale, their skin, their dirty teeth, in some, lack of teeth, emaciation, mutism, figure, deep eyes, and bony fingers," he wrote.

Racial prejudice was rampant, he indicated by the differences between the cells occupied by Chinese and those by Europeans: "The jails of the Chinese are dreary, its furnishings consisted of one bare and round pole, about 15 centimeters in diameter fixed on the floor, to which are tied two pillars; and one square bench and/or crooked and with a shovel which served as a pillow ..."

"We visited various departments beside each other. I saw seven European. There lives a unicorn; but which fed on the other like a lion, with a fierceness that is a mystery."

Well-behaved prisoners were transferred to workshops to learn skills in dressmaking, bookbinding and painting.

Others were engaged in tedious activities such as unraveling burlap threads to make cotton. These prisoners were required to produce a quota of one and a half pounds of burlap threads, or face punishment.

### Grueling penalties

The hard labor penalties were cruelly grueling, according to Rizal.

He wrote: "... Hard labor consists of walking to and from the interior of the cell to a leather covered trunk attached to the wall. The coach is connected to a motor with a plate whose movement indicates what should be done before each travel.

"The route is dark. From one side one he sees the moving sword of the axis, there is an interval enlarging the direction. Every prisoner has to walk back and forth 12,000 times a day and if he fails to do it, he will be punished.

"To do this, the prisoner must remain standing in semi-darkness. He sees one, naked until the waist, doing this. The resistance weight of the coach is probably from 10 to 16 pounds. There is a back-stroke by which an accident for the number of times one has made and the number of days that he has to work. It is hard work and it is a pity that so much motive power is not employed in manufacturing work."

Hard labor included picking wood chips and at intervals planting or removing them from holders in iron-high scales, and carrying on the shoulders a bamboo pole with two heavy granite stones suspended from each end and walking on a path for hours.

### Attempted escape

Rizal also recounted that a prisoner tried to escape by jumping from the high wall and was caught by the guards.

"... The poor devil ... had committed theft in China, was caught in Hong Kong and was ... to be sent back to China. He tried to escape without knowing the topography of the place.

"They fired at him several times without hitting him. When he jumped, he fell on his face, he hurt himself, rested on his hands, and his face hit the ground. He is suffering from fractures of the ... bone of the skull. As the logic goes, he had a slight fever.

"He is 20 years old."

Rizal left Victoria Gaol ah-sa, yet he was visibly affected by what he had witnessed. Did he pay the punishment for the harsh punishments they were suffering? How did he regard the colonial justice system imposed by the British?

As he stepped out of the prison doors, Rizal must have reflected on French philosopher Jean Jacques Rousseau's words: "Man is born free, but everywhere he is in chains."

In all probability, Rizal felt that oppression existed in all countries under colonial rule, and this fueled his determination to strive for equality and freedom for fellow Filipinos in the Inang Bayan.

---

The 150th birth anniversary of National Hero Jose Rizal will be celebrated on June 19. The National Historical Commission of the Philippines is marking the event with a yearlong calendar of activities here and abroad. For details, log on to www.nhcp.gov.ph.

# Balangay romance: Love blooms at sea ...

From page A1

seaphone: 12,000 kilometers precisely across the country and Southeast Asia.

Fred, who was a member of the First Philippine Silk Route Expedition Team's technical and support group, was one of the voyage's leaders.

### His new love

In March 2003, the expedition's three balangays docked in Zamboanga City, a few months before it completed its 15-month Asian voyage.

One of those who welcomed the expedition was Fred's future bride, Rosario Tolentino.

"I thought, yes, I will forever be married to the mountains. I had convinced myself that the mountains are my wives until I met her," said Fred.

Rosario, 30, a history professor at the Ateneo de Zamboanga University, will wed Fred, 58, today, something they both never imagined would happen to them in their lives.

"This is a special wedding for the special women in my life," said the soft-spoken Fred.

The groom will be wearing a coat embroidered with beads. The bride will wear a matching Filipiniana.

"We want it to be simple and something that will inform back to our cultural roots. The beads will connect us to the culture of the indigenous people. It is something that is always part of their life, not just culture," said Rosario.

### Shipboard wedding

The wedding will be celebrated on the Ateneo Hong Bato... campus, one of the balangays, which is now moored at Barangay Mactang in Lapulapu City.

It is the couple's way of paying homage to the mission who

LOVE STORY Fred Jacobi and bride-to-be Rosario Tolentino pose on the deck of the Masinta Hong Bantayan, where they will be married today.

started it well deserved. And the numbers speak for themselves.

At present, there are some 2,400 companies doing business in the special economic zones nationwide, employing close to 900,000 highly skilled Filipino workers. Indirectly, another 4.4 million jobs are being created and sustained because of the business generated by these PEZA locators.

With Ms Lima at the helm, Bases Conversion is on an annual of P1.7 trillion worth of foreign investments into local shores since 1995, and remitted close to P15 billion to the government over the agency's lifetime.

As the success stories she envisions in the various economic zones nationwide start to become too many to count, Ms Lima believes that about 90 percent of the country's mission beyond exports are now made in Pinas sitio, contradictorily enough, under DOT tollgate to date.

It is perhaps because of these numbers that De Lima has kept her job as director general of Bases under four presidents—a... still an achievement in a country where most agency heads are changed along with the appointments and policies of the outgoing administration.

### 'Non-Stop Shop'

De Lima is apparently not one to rest on his laurels in... position. As she ventures in... path her team to excel in its work every day.

Her formula for success is strikingly simple, yet difficult to achieve in a local setting.

"I live the motto we have by-built when it comes to the Bases community in the Pinas brand of service—no graft, no corruption, no red tape, only and super investment for our valued investors and stakeholders," Ms Lima said during the award recognition event for Outstanding Filipino (TOF) in the Philippine Daily Inquirer for Bet MAP awardees.

"Pera is a One-Stop Shop," she said. "Import and export permits, now all streamlined, are processed or programmed by Bases, so building permits, visas, environmental compliance are almost the same process. Accountability, she is into history. It's like we're similar in a lot of things, something that I have not found in other investors," he said.

"She is very open to me," he added.

For Rosario, married life is something to... if it were not with Fred.

"He is always there. I love the fact that he understands the life that I was struggling to be. I am very adventurous myself and I want to spend a lot of my time outdoors. Other men would not understand that," she said.

### Better late than never

Jay Siddayao, Fred's mountain-climbing partner since 1979 and the Balangay expedition leader until their group was history that "[Fred] has found someone only at this late in his journey."

"All his life, he had no one to care about, he was carefree and always out there ... it is worth celebrating that he has finally found something that will support him and will complete the circle of life," said Siddayao, a former transportation undersecretary who chairs the Mountaineering Federation of the Philippines.

"It is better late than never," he added with a laugh, remembering the bitter-sweet saga.

According to Siddayao, a lot of things changed in Fred after he met Rosario.

"He was always cool, it was... Hey, relax. But when he found love, he changed. Love helped him, lightened him up," he said.

But Siddayao, who will be godfather at the wedding, hopes that Fred's romance with the mountains and the green rainforests will still be treasured by marriage.

"Don't you worry about Fred. He will always be part of our expedition. His wife will understand," he said.

### Like launching a ship

As for his advice to the couple, Siddayao said that it is like the launching of a ship in an uncharted sea. It is full of challenges but determination and love will be able to bring you to that desired destination. Overcome the big storms and bad weather, don't let them destroy your ship.

For Fred and Rosario, marriage only signals the beginning of their journey together.

"I know it will be an exciting journey with him. People asked me if I am excited about the wedding. I told them I am sure that I am more excited about to the journey with him, that life with him," Rosario said.

And Fred has another adventure to be sated.

"He can not only bring a new life as husband and wife but we will also be building our own home, our own heritage," he said.

# The other De Lima breaks MAP's sex barrier

From page A1

the wake of the "Hello Garci" electoral scandal.

But it was hardly surprising that Fred Bernardo would choose for the position (award).

What was a surprise... as the most pleasant sense—was the MAP's decision to name Gilda B. de Lima, the director general of the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (Peza), as the other Management Man of the Year for 2010.

With the upper echelons of Philippine business remaining largely male-dominated, it was the first time in its history that the MAP bestowed the honor on a woman.

### Proud in numbers

By all accounts, De Lima's stunning results deserved. And the numbers speak for themselves.

At present, there are some 2,400 companies doing business in the special economic zones nationwide, employing close to 900,000 highly skilled Filipino workers. Indirectly, another 4.4 million jobs are being created and sustained because of the business generated by these Peza locators.

With De Lima at the helm, Bases Conversion is on an annual of P1.7 trillion worth of foreign investments into local shores since 1995, and remitted close to P15 billion to the government over the agency's lifetime.

As the success stories she envisions in the various economic zones nationwide start to become too many to count, Ms Lima believes that about 90 percent of the country's mission beyond exports are now made in Pinas sitio, contradictorily enough, under DOT tollgate to date.

It is perhaps because of these numbers that De Lima has kept her job as director general of Bases under four presidents—a... still an achievement in a country where most agency heads are changed along with the appointments and policies of the outgoing administration.

### 'Non-Stop Shop'

De Lima is apparently not one to rest on his laurels in... position. As she ventures in... path her team to excel in its work every day.

Her formula for success is strikingly simple, yet difficult to achieve in a local setting.

"I live the motto we have by-built when it comes to the Bases community in the Pinas brand of service—no graft, no corruption, no red tape, only and super investment for our valued investors and stakeholders," Ms Lima said during the award recognition event for Outstanding Filipino (TOF) in the Philippine Daily Inquirer for Bet MAP awardees.

"Pera is a One-Stop Shop," she said. "Import and export permits, now all streamlined, are processed or programmed by Bases, so building permits, visas, environmental compliance are almost the same process. Accountability, she is into history. It's like we're similar in a lot of things, something that I have not found in other investors," he said.

"She is very open to me," he added.

For Rosario, married life is something to... if it were not with Fred.

"He is always there. I love the fact that he understands the life that I was struggling to be. I am very adventurous myself and I want to spend a lot of my time outdoors. Other men would not understand that," she said.

### Better late than never

Jay Siddayao, Fred's mountain-climbing partner since 1979 and the Balangay expedition leader until their group was history that "[Fred] has found someone only at this late in his journey."

"All his life, he had no one to care about, he was carefree and always out there ... it is worth celebrating that he has finally found something that will support him and will complete the circle of life," said Siddayao, a former transportation undersecretary who chairs the Mountaineering Federation of the Philippines.

"It is better late than never," he added with a laugh, remembering the bitter-sweet saga.

According to Siddayao, a lot of things changed in Fred after he met Rosario.

"He was always cool, it was... Hey, relax. But when he found love, he changed. Love helped him, lightened him up," he said.

But Siddayao, who will be godfather at the wedding, hopes that Fred's romance with the mountains and the green rainforests will still be treasured by marriage.

"Don't you worry about Fred. He will always be part of our expedition. His wife will understand," he said.

### Like launching a ship

As for his advice to the couple, Siddayao said that it is like the launching of a ship in an uncharted sea. It is full of challenges but determination and love will be able to bring you to that desired destination. Overcome the big storms and bad weather, don't let them destroy your ship.

For Fred and Rosario, marriage only signals the beginning of their journey together.

"I know it will be an exciting journey with him. People asked me if I am excited about the wedding. I told them I am sure that I am more excited about to the journey with him, that life with him," Rosario said.

And Fred has another adventure to be sated.

"He can not only bring a new life as husband and wife but we will also be building our own home, our own heritage," he said.

# Exec busted for faking drug arrests

A FORMER councilor of Dagupan City has been busted, not for illegal drugs, but for faking drug busts in order to collect money from the government.

The Sandiganbayan Second Division sentenced Fidencio Bulling to 6-10 years in prison and disqualified him from ever holding public office after it found him guilty of scamming the city government of P30,000.

Bulling was accused of faking drug busts against alleged drug pushers and users in 1997 and falsifying documents that he could claim reimbursement for supposed expenses.

The antigraft court said Bulling made it appear that he handed the commissioner an illegal drugs of the Sanggunian Panlungsod of Dagupan City when no such commission existed.

What he claimed was the accusation on motions and by-surveillance member of the commission on youth and sports development, and on health and sanitation, the court said.

It said Bulling's confidential report on the supposed drug operations showed that surveillance, buy bust and raids were conducted from January to August 1997, but only two arrests were made as shown by police records. The records, however, did not mention Bulling or recall the arrests in the pending campaign.

The Sandiganbayan also said that the documents Bulling submitted to support his reimbursement claims included commercial tax certificates whose dates of issuance did not tally with official receipts.

The tax certificates were issued to supposed members of the raiding team by Bulling's cousin, barangay treasurer Divina Bulling.

The court said it got the impression that the members of the team were fictitious.

"In this case, accused created a fictitious commission that conducted fictitious activities involving fictitious persons, for the purpose of obtaining, as he obtained, a sum of money from government coffers. He did a wrong for his own interest. That is criminal bad faith," the Sandiganbayan said.

The court also noted that while Bulling was given the opportunity to present evidence in his defense, he did not do so. Leila B. Salaverria


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## THE DAILY GOSPEL

MAY 29 (Sunday)
Psalter: Week 2
6th Sunday of Easter
Ps 66: 1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20
Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

1st Reading: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

Philip went down to a town of Samaria and proclaimed the Christ there. All the people paid close attention to what Philip said as they listened and saw the signs he was performing. For many of them he did. So in cases of possession, the unclean spirits came out, shrieking loudly. Many people who were paralyzed or crippled were healed. So there was great joy in that city.

Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that the Samaritans had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. They went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for he had not as yet come down upon any of them since they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

2nd Reading: 1 Pt 3:15-18

But bless the Lord Christ in your hearts, always ready to answer readily when you are called upon to account for your hope, but give it simply and with respect. Keep your conscience clear so that those who slander you may be put to shame by your upright, Christian living. Better to suffer for doing good, if it be God's will, than for doing wrong.

Remember how Christ died, once and for all, for our sins. He, the just one, died for the unjust to enable us to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death; in the Spirit he was raised to life.

Gospel: Jn 14:15-21

Jesus said to his disciples, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments, and I will ask the Father and he will give you another Helper to be with you always, that Spirit of truth whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him for he is with you and will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphans; I am coming to you. In a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me because I live and you will also live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father and you in me, and I in you.

"Whoever loves me is one who keeps my commandments, and whoever loves me will be loved by my Father. I too shall love him and show myself clearly to him."

Reflections:

• Could all the Father send he will give you another Helper to be with you forever.

Meditation:

• He whom we come to be right. Love in the Spirit that we can never go wrong. The Spirit leads us to the Father of the truth.

Oratio:

• Let the Spirit guide our discernment and direction always. Let us be sensitive to His inspirations through the ordinary events of our life.

Actio:

• Observe the manifestations of conscience daily. Is there in me where God is leading us always.

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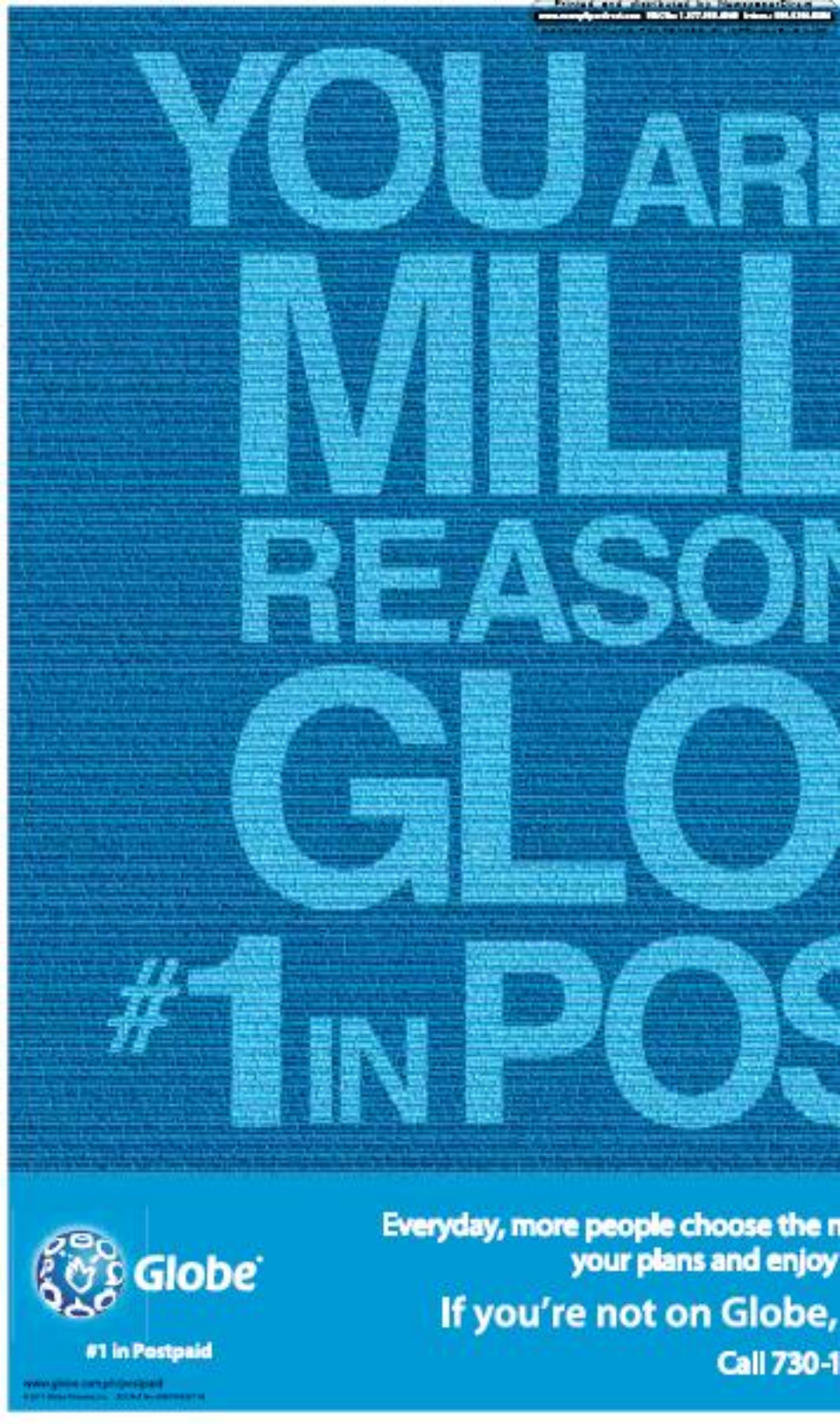
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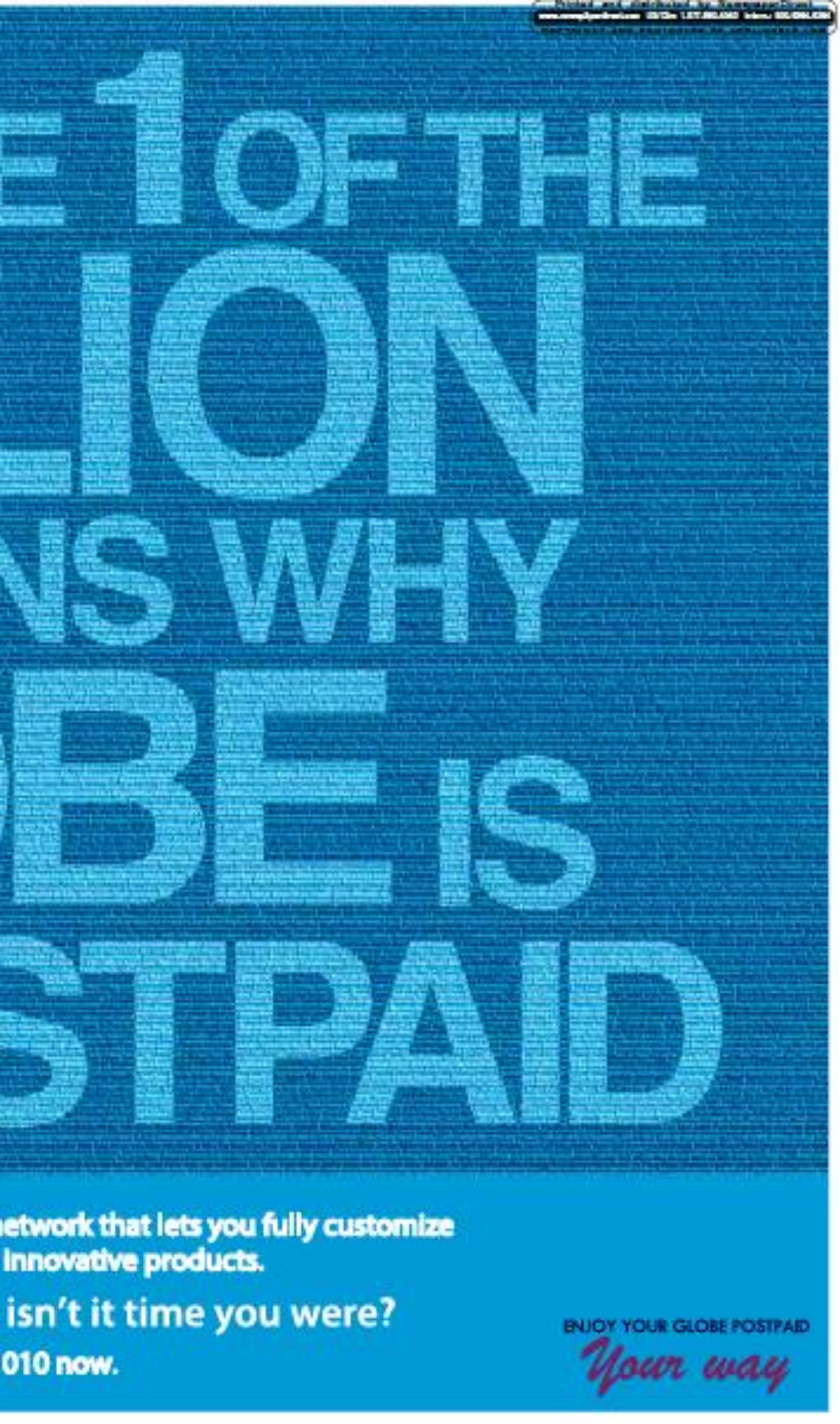
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# OPINION

## School spirit

**EDITORIAL**

PERHAPS THE single most poignant image that appears in the newspapers at the start of every school year is the photograph of young Filipino public-school students having class in the shade of trees. They flip the pages of their textbooks—if at all they have textbooks—or the warm wind pushes the leaves on the trees by turns, and as the teacher makes an effort to be heard above the din of the students. While it may showcase the immense value Filipino parents place on their children's education, it highlights the massive lack of proper classrooms for the students.

Come June 6, some 22 million students will flood the country's 45,000 public grade and high schools, ready for a brand new year, but the Department of Education estimates that more than 60,000 classrooms are needed to ensure the ideal balance of one classroom for every 45 students. It appears that many students will be hurting fanatics and prayer gunmen beneath the trees yet again.

This, while old, dilapidated school buildings, battered by the annual typhoons as well as by wear and tear, cry out in need for care. For the most part. For schools often rely on the parents' donations for new paint, and the students themselves provide much of the manpower, fixing and preparing the very classrooms they will be using.

But there is hope, and it comes in an unnerving combination of uncertain and dead. Last May 23, the day flooded clear over Bago Bantay Elementary School in Quezon City with the scent of promise and the presence of a great many people.

A long line of over a hundred vehicles rode in after navigating Edsa with colorful balikbayan and streamers—a motorcade with a purpose. Upon arriving at the school, the gathered people alighted from their vehicles. With them they brought donated construction materials for the school buildings. The crowd, which included Quezon City Mayor Herbert Bautista and Education Secretary Armin Luistro, was there for Brigada Eskwela, perhaps one of the DepEd's most significant school-spanning endeavors.

Brigada Eskwela aims to close the nish-peso gap for needy Filipino students by gathering volunteers from both the government and the private sector, corporations and businessmen, diplomats and barangay officials, soldiers and clergy. It involves basically everybody who cares, both the powerful and the everymen. The goal is to assemble manpower to repair, clean and maintain classrooms in those public schools that require it, to take the classes back indoors and away from the trees.

"One important feature of Brigada Eskwela is that we have ordinary people, civil society and nongovernment organizations helping us fulfill our responsibilities to prepare for the school opening," Luistro told the crowd gathered at the school that morning. "Brigada Eskwela is a *new* form of people power. All sectors who should actually get involved."

From its start in 2003, Brigada Eskwela had grown by leaps and bounds nationwide, and all up to May 28, volunteers were descending upon schools all over the country, ready to show with their hands just how much the future of the students mattered to them. From 2003 to 2008, for example, the Brigada Eskwela program had saved the DepEd some P9 billion in maintenance and other expenses. Every year sees thousands of volunteers join its ranks.

The most impressive thing about Brigada Eskwela is that it accepts only donations of volunteer time and actual construction materials—no monetary donations are accepted. This corruption-free model also promotes community involvement in the schools. Many of the local businesses give their time and donations in kind to the schools located in their own towns and cities, giving a clear sign that they care about their young students.

The coordinated efforts to refurbish our schools call to mind the legendary Filipino *bayanihan* spirit, where once entire barangays would join forces to literally move houses to other locations within their towns. Now, the *bayanihan* spirit has reached the schools—to be sure, a most welcome development proving to be very effective and productive.

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## The Philippines and geographical karma

**COMMENTARY**

*Hazel Zenaki*

THE CALCULUS of economic development within countries is very complex and has been discussed exhaustively by Jared Diamond in his groundbreaking book, "Guns, Germs, and Steel." His central theme of the pivotal role of geography in economic development is key to Gallup's appreciation in assessing the Philippines, a country with over 7,000 islands. This combination has no doubt impeded the development of a coast-island and offshore economic system and highlighted the real fabric of the Philippines' development puzzle.

But this same geography which might be argued to be a curse, now presents us enormous opportunity in the form of the Tampakan mining project. The mine has the potential to become the fifth largest copper mine in the world. The confluence of a surging China demand for copper and mined mining copper prices suggests that the mine's development must proceed for the benefit of the country. Project-related industry linkages will be tangible in the percent of GDP including thousands of new jobs. While environmental concerns should not be understated, significant processed nonpollutant investments by the mining corporations, coupled with the transparency mechanisms of regulatory bodies, provide sufficient assurance.

The African country of Zambia was faced with a similar investment decision 30 years ago—whether or not to allow development of its copper industry. The decision to ultimately develop the mining sector has created enormous tax windfalls which are being used to fund socio-civic measures, in particular the development of its agriculture industry. The progression in the country's key industry acknowledged that it made the correct decision. Additionally, an economic have exceeded internal forecasts. In 2010 the World Bank cited Zambia as the fastest economically reforming country.

There is no external why the Philippines can not duplicate the Zambia formula, but an internal need to be spent wisely and functional internal expenses of the economy with proper multiplier effects. One such expenses is agriculture, the beauty of which is an income-generating simple math, according to the Philippine Rice Research Institute, five hectare rice producing about seven tons of rice per hectare annually, can support about the family's potential of 12 tons. Reaching to farmers for buying rice utilities or rice innovation loans for better production machinery or irrigation equipment can be a quick and easy development policy to maximize yields. Higher yields potentials more income and therefore less of unemployment, immediately to Diamond notes, once workforces escape a subsistence level and self-sufficiency, the other workers begin flourishing. Additionally, the self-sufficiency eliminates more costly imports, addresses inequities in higher rice prices and thus macroeconomically impact the poor who spend a significant percentage of disposable income on rice.

Another segment with large multiplier effects is infrastructure. Strategic development of key transportation corridors can make access to domestic and export services to new markets and reinforces the economic inefficiencies of 7,000 islands. Drives and segments related to electricity, water and communications building an additional two years of elementary school, reducing class sizes and enhancing school system choice.

It is no secret that the Philippines has lagged behind its Southeast Asian neighbors in development, but the fact that the Filipino workethic is unquestioned and the Filipino people's professional success abroad is substantial. The intent fact that Filipinos excel in nearly 70 countries abroad suggests a home country with a broken (or flawed) system. The systems and a people desperate to flee it. My mostly threatening issue facing in Northern Mindanao and consequent insurgencies underscores the poor and inefficient economic base from a worsening population. Massive and extensive conflict within the country's system have continue to game at one and have forced me to sympathize with people wishing to leave and work abroad. I do believe that governments policy paradigmatic must, when it can meaningfully right this wrong, encourage the participation of a committed government that is intent on not achieving consensus. Given the current state of development, "throwing money at the problem" can be effective if done at no priority. The "foreign aid" approach to the Philippines can improve but will be back to their development patterns.

The Philippines' geographical luck may be taking an important and monumental turn, and the role of luck should not be underestimated. As Diamond points out, "Luck is one of the one under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favor to men of skill, but time and chance happeneth to them all" (Ecclesiastes 9:11).

The Philippines is bathing in a current natural resources in today's expanding global economy with the prospect of continuing upper prices at historically high levels. Intl panacea for Christ's remembrance. The proverbial "Hail, grace-time" is now.

*Hazel Zenaki is an American residing in Northern Mindanao. He is the managing director of Zen Century Agency Research, which specializes in natural and rural geographic research.*

## Staying in love

**MOMENTS**

*Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD*

THE STORY of old often tells of a boy with his old but husband: "When I die, their name NOT even in power on my tombstone. Instead, write: NOT THE one you used to."

* * *

In today's Gospel (Jn. 14: 15-21), Jesus tells his disciples that he will not them again "in a little while." He is saying goodbye, but with the promise that they will see each other again. With the resurrection, we see Jesus' "goodbye" "hello" as "we will see more again." But, God has blessed all our "hellos" and "goodbyes."

* * *

Life is a journey, a common saying we all know and we do not always know. Someone beautifully described our journey as a series of steps and steps. It is very amazing to know that the Lord is with us in every step and every step we make along the way. Even counting to know that the Lord is with us whatever we are, and whatever we do.

* * *

One of the best investments in our day and age is the cellular phone which enables us to keep in touch and connect with people anywhere in the world. The Lord made sure that He will be with us, and that He will be within our reach through prayer. Yes, He is always present. It is just up to us.

* * *

What is the meaning of the invention of the GPS (global positioning system) which helps us know our location and direction. We have to know from time to time where we are and where we are headed as we journey on in life. Remember, to be able to reach our final destination, we have to be constantly in touch with God through prayer.

* * *

Saint Padre Pio was one person who remained in touch with God till the end. Such their pain, not persecution, not worldly fame made this saint renounce his focus from his God. He remained in touch with God not only in prayer, but also with the sick and the needy around him. In compliance with his wish, a hospital for the poor has been erected in his shrine to his fervent friends, and a retirement home for sick and elderly priests is now under construction as well.

* * *

Saint Padre Pio is now buried in the new beautiful, and ever-opulent church beside the old and ancient convent where he lived for many years and welcomed pilgrims from all over the world. Should the poor and simple Franciscan, Capuchin friar have liked the upgrade? Our guide explained that this was to show that those who lived poor, chaste and simple lives in this world will inherit their heavenly reward.

* * *

In our three-mile Mercy Shrine, Philippine ambassador to the Vatican, we heard the chatting of Cenia Khan Ambassador Bernardo F. Sanchez Campos whose son and wife were buried through the rosary of Saint Padre Pio. Their son an architect who also proclaimed unashamedly the presence of God in his our day and time, and the reality of life after in our lives. It was very inspiring and edifying to hear him. Shoulder we all be busy proclaiming God's presence and love wherever we are, and whatever we do?

* * *

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments." The proof of my love for God is our obedience to His will (Ten Rules just to one living of his people). In other words, loving God is not lip service, but simply service. To remain in God's love, we must love (second) and (second).

* * *

It is interesting to note that there are people who easily lose their peace. The Lord told us to hold on to that peace "which the world cannot give nor take away." If our trials get irritated, discouraged, or be affected by problems, temptations or trials, that means that our staying power with the Lord is still, to say, weak and fragile. Run deep in your love for God, and how wide is your love for people?

* * *

Here is funny one's travel documents, the travel thing that can happen to a traveler is having one's suitcase losing one's luggage. Travel our fellow pilgrims experienced more as our earthly pilgrimage. So, anything can happen to anyone anytime. No matter how much we prepare, no one never be fully prepared for any circumstance beyond our control. In such instances we can only trust in God, and just remain in God's embrace and love.

* * *

To remain in love with God every day, we must remind ourselves that our most important opportunity for today is our opportunity now with God, and that our most important agenda is to love.

* * *

Saint Padre Pio's prayer for Jesus penetrate "Stay with me, Lord, for it is necessary to have you present so that I do not forget you. You know how easily I abandon you. Stay with me, Lord, because I am weak, and I need strength that I may not fall in often. Stay with me, Lord, for you are my life, and without you, I am without fervor. Stay with me, Lord, for you are my light and without you I am in darkness. Stay with me, Lord, to show me your will. Stay with me, Lord, so that I hear your voice and follow you."

* * *

**A moment with the Lord:**

*Lord, stay with me, so that I remain close, and will stay in love with you. Amen.*

# P-Noy's polestar

**WITH DUE RESPECT**

*Antonio T. Carpio*

*Panagdalhan*

HEADLINE OF the recent reorganization of the Cabinet cuts into three clusters. It signaled the ordered desire of President Aquino for his official family not only to be individually talented, but also to be team players. Like in basketball and other endeavors, teamwork is an important to talent in directing the basket. And in winning the war on corruption and poverty.

**Done shopon to Mangotin.** What called him to his silence the impending appointment of his relatives (and this Inquirer columnist) to ambassadorial slots? Well, Vice President Jejomar Binay showed his bright side: "I am sure I can work with him. I am a team player." Binay sensed the extent if he was not treated that of one of the three clusters. I thought that, being the second highest official of the land and being responsible for housing and urban development, he deserved the handful of ten clusters.

The most important clusters: Social Governance and Anti-Corruption, is chaired by the President; the second, Human Development and Poverty Reduction, by Secretary Corazon Soliman; the third, Economic Development, by Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima; the fourth, Security, Justice and Peace, by Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa; and the fifth, Climate Change Adaptation and Management, by Environment Secretary Ramon Paje. The Cabinet Secretary seems important for the success of P-Noy's presidency.

I think EO 43 is really the polestar of Presidency Aquino. It was granted that Cabinet with the primacy is defined by "vision, country with a set goals, and the means to achieving through the living examples of our highest leaders"; it pointed to his "Social Contract with the Filipino People, ... and the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2011-2016... that will translate the Social Contract into concrete, efficient, and responsive service." From EO 43 and PDP, we can deduce and reconstruct the goals for governance: transparency, accountability, integrity and, more important, leadership by example.

A year ago, he proclaimed "Kung walang sasakyan, walang mahuhuli." Since then, I have been watching for a road map, a more detailed explanation. Now, I have received it from the deputy executive secretary. I thank Dr. ADD 43. I consider it the executive summary of his vision, mission, goals, values, principles and methods. Open it, the people will judge him and his officials.

**Fine Bastille as 46.** Vision and mission. Goals and values. Principles and methods. Values and commands. There now in some terms and points more than propelled the Pico Pastil Congress headed to see in a major player in Asia. Organized in the beginning of 1901 by Manuel L. Quezon and Sergio Osmeña, Sr., the Nacionalista Party was the original Philippine political party. Its platform: immediate independence. Its first Pastil: control with a capital of $625 million (less than $100 million) as a tobacco magnate rather with its employees.

Now, three decades later, First Pastil and its election promise: independence. Its first Pastil: capital of US$445.37 billion (equal to $445 billion) with 100,000 employees in the Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore, Hong Kong and other countries. It has interests in food, agriculture, telecommunications, power distribution, business process outsourcing, water distribution, hospitals, infrastructure, mining and other industries.

A week ago, it invited to 300 board directors and senior officers to an lunch affair in Hong Kong to thank them for helping it achieve its goals. It appointed a qualified Filipino executive, with experience in engineering and government. She was born Hong Kong. But all the entertainers were the best from the Philippines: Lea Salonga, Sarah Geronimo, Lani Misalucha, Martin Nievera, Christian Bautista and Jed Madela.

**Who represents offended party?** Mr. May 13 column explained that only the President or his duly authorized representative could give the consent of the Republic—to the offended party—in the Garcia plea bargain agreement (PBA). Since no such consent was given, says the PBA as well, in his letter to the Inquirer (printed on May 23), the sandiganbayan Justices Bersamin, A. Abrenica wrote that the Office of the Ombudsman (OMB), like the locals and prosecutors, is prohibited to bind the Republic as the offended party to the PBA because the OMB is the public prosecutors in graft cases.

My reply: True, the OMB—not the Solicitors—prosecutes graft cases. True also, the Supreme Court has ruled that the President could give the consent of the Republic to the offended party in a PBA. However, the OMB is not in the exact situation in locals. Locals are subdivisions of the secretary of justice who in turn is an alter ego of the President. Locals are subject to the control of the latter hand being an independent office that is not under the control and supervision of the President, the OMB is not a subdivision of the President and cannot represent the latter. In short, while the secretary of justice and the solicitor-locals can represent the President, the OMB—being so independent—cannot.

**Alejandro R. Roces** is a well known literary, short story writer, athlete, columnist, culture icon, who in the last few years has been in politics. In this he was all thin, plus more. He was my underdog in advice during my student leadership days, who helped me organize the National Union of Students of the Philippines. As secretary of education in 1961-63, he presided in the Union Revival Day May 23 in the grains of rice land.

Comments are welcome at chatbox@inquirer.net.ph

# A reading from the book of Leviticus

*An address from the May 24 transcript of the manipulations of Marcelo Fernan, Speaker and Cebu Rep. Pablo Garcia during the plenary debates on the Reproductive Health bill.*

*Homily Reading*

Every one of us is a servant of God. Whatever we do we do in the service of God. Every minute, every minute of our life. God is everywhere. God is not omnipresent.

Any one recruiting CBCP (Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines) to influence legislators' decisions? You're one step away from being excommunicated. You're not entitled to receive the body and blood of Christ. You're not entitled to receive the sacraments. You're not entitled to receive absolution. You're not entitled to receive extreme unction. You're also entitled to receive the anointing of the sick. You're also entitled to receive the last rites. So long as we live in the Philippines, live in a country where the majority of the people are Catholics, there are many shrift by God. Before you pass away you are entitled to be buried by our Catholic cemeteries or bishops, our cemeteries.

**METHOD TO MADNESS**

*Patricia Evangelista*

It would seem you are allergic to God. It has been a pronouncement of our country with a priority do not mean there is no place for God in our economy? The distinguished spokesperson of the Philippine government is taking questions like this.

This bill offends God. You're saying your opinion is popular? Let me tell you that the matter of right and wrong is not conquering matters. You are wrong as right is wrong by using other countries, just because it's right there does not mean it's right here. May I remind you that we are not living, not moving in Sweden.

Don't interrupt me because you are trapped in your own words. If you are a Catholic, then you are a Catholic on principles.

This measure is detrimental not only to the moral values of the Philippines.

This is EO respectfulness in disguise. She will spend millions to buy those American products. There cause-oriented groups are being used in order to promote the advocacy.

The evil of RH bill is that it leads mostly Catholic women to temptation because the government will help them and supply them contraceptives.

The poor do not need contraceptives. They need food, clothing, shelter. They don't need condoms. They need education.

The gospel of the condoms should not apply to those who practice as Catholic religion. My question is, do you believe in the words of God?

*An unapologizing*

*An address from the May 24 transcript of the manipulations of Marcelo Fernan, Speaker and Cebu Rep. Pablo Garcia during the plenary debates on the Reproductive Health bill.*

The RH bill is a direct attack on the teachings of the Church.

There is no compelling reason for a new law specifically just to give funds to contraceptives. They are already available. Population is not the problem, but programs that can prevent its rise.

Sexual education of children can be handled by parents. Parents could take courses.

The use of contraceptives is abortion. It prevents pregnancy. It stops the egg from meeting the sperm. We're only playing with semantics. You prevent them from meeting. When you prevent, in English, that is abort. When you stop something from fulfilling its obligation, it is as if you are stopping life. It is as if you are aborting life.

Is that so hard to understand? Abortion is hidden somewhere in the RH bill and must be legislated. Contraceptives have abortifacient effects.

I cannot be wiser than the Creator. The Lord said, "Go forth and multiply."

*Sin over Golez*

An update from a 2010 personal interview with Parañaque Rep. Roilo Golez and from the plenary debates on the RH bill

I have been diagnosed with prostate cancer. I am undergoing the Brachytherapy Method bill. The cancer major elements that is the definition of conception.

What is conception? Ah, I consulted the Internet ok, one of the major medical websites in the land (no, medicinenet, mmm, it is not medicinenet.com) and the definition of conception is as follows: the union of the sperm and the ovum, which is synonymous with fertilization. That is the medical definition of ok, of conception and that is how I define conception also in my bill.

The author of the bill adopts the prevailing medical definition in fact in the presentation it was presented as provided by medical dictionaries available to the website, is the moment of conception, is the moment of fertilization.

If you look at the Reproductive Health bill, by definition reproductive means reproduction. But the bill in fact prevents reproduction and is anti-reproduction.

It's in fact anti-reproductive. It's the opposite.

We have here the definition of conception as defined by the most accepted encyclopedia right now in the world, Wikipedia.

There should be no confusion about what is a conception, is not readily defined. If you search the word "conception" in Google, this is the first term that comes out. Here is the sperm, and here's the egg. This will be the documentary presentation.

It's a question of religious conviction. There's no conflict. If you look at the concept of the separation of Church and State, it is basically that the state should not interfere in church matters and not the other way around. It is not the church interfering in a state matter but the state should not interfere in church matters, that is the most fundamental definition of ok, separation of Church and State.

But in truth, is the church should like to have Mission on a Sunday the state cannot interfere. That is a matter of a religious conviction.

The measure reinforces a number of ok beauty, you have to comply with the guidelines from the church and in the case of the Catholic Church, the principal interpreter of a Catholic doctrine would be the bishops.

I comply with the doctrine of the church.

**An update from the book of Leviticus, Chapter 24, verse 19-20, 21-23**

And if a man cause a blemish in his neighbour; as he hath done, so shall it be done to him; Breaks for breach, eye for eye, tooth for tooth: as he hath caused a blemish in a man, so shall it be done to him again.

It shall have one manner of law, as well for the stranger, as for one of your own country: for I am the LORD your God.

And Moses spake to the children of Israel, that they should bring forth him that had cursed out of the camp, and stone him with stones. And the children of Israel did as the Lord commanded Moses.

# Clean air and an auction for children

**AT LARGE**

*Elvira Jimenez-David*

PEARS! I first heard about the "air cleaning" paint applied on the walls of the Guadalupe MRT line (in 2005). I passed the area with mixed emotions and not a small amount of skepticism. Just another marketing gimmick, I thought, pledging to acknowledging the motorist's denial use of a new technology.

But it turns out that there was more to the use of Boysen "ECOACTIV" than a momentarily appetizing. The painting of the Guadalupe MRT Station was made to serve as a trial of the paint's air cleaning quality, according to Boysen, in partnership with the Swedish environmental project management company Centrum "SINOMATT," the trial showed, "cleaned the nitrogen dioxide in a way [as produced] from vehicle emissions equivalent of over 10,000 cars driving in a single day," and "cleaned the air."

How does Boysen do it? Information materials provided by the company say that when a film of "ECOACTIV" is exposed to light, the titanium dioxide molecule in the paint reacts with water vapor in the air to form highly reactive hydroxyl radicals that oxidize nitrogen dioxide. These then oxidize to non-toxic and water soluble pollutants such as nitrogen oxides that were encountered with the surface, to effect, and the company, this made the Guadalupe MRT Station the "largest air purifier in the world."

* * *

THANK the air cleaning project a step further, because has been partnered with the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) on "Project EDSA #Fresh Air for Filipinos Ride." What's more, the "the world's first large-scale air project using paints that can clean noxious air pollutants." The project, launched last May 7 and carried by 350 line, "headed by my friend Marilou Bautista-Bonoan, executive director of the MMDA, is also dedicated to cleaning about 1,000 square meters in eight different locations along the 24-km stretch of Edsa. All of the artworks will use Boysen "ECOACTIV."

"This is the first public air project in the world," says Boysen Philippines president Jeffrey Bryan Palmer. "It's a very unique mix of art and science—we're remediating. Edsa into a drawing for art while using a globally innovative technology to help clean the air. It's today the beauty of art to help address the ugly problem of air pollutants on our city."

The artists who will be involved in Project EDSA are Jose Tence Ruiz, American "duo" Imperial and Damian "Goop" Aono, Mindo and Isabel Aquilizan, and Apolo TIBOL, **murder Orgullo "Pandy" Aviado, photographer** Neal Ildefonso, Erika Ilao, and Triple Incidhouse and Christian Cruz.

**From a public's health perspective, "Project EDSA" should help tremendously in addressing the problem of air pollution, which causes almost 14 avoidable deaths a day in the metropolis,** according to a study of the World Bank and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Aside from this study, **it is also the second-highest air pollution and its health effects site:** pose a major health exposure, with a study conducted by the UP College of Medicine finding that half of all smokehouses sold in the country are by vendors on the streets.

Of course, there are other things the government can do to cut down air pollution, and not just along Edsa. But while we struggle to implement stricter vehicle emission guidelines and less polluting fuels, this will help address the long days in the number of vehicles plying our roads, public air cooling or cleaning points is a good initial step. As they say, every little bit helps.

* * *

RECORDING May 23 and until June 4, everyone has a chance to bid online (www.ebay.ph) usually for artworks, furniture and decorative items made by renowned artists and designers while helping Filipino children receive shorter lives.

The fundraising online auction entitled "Auction for Artists" is Unicef Philippines' first such activity to benefit children's programs in the Philippines and worldwide. The activity is organized with Ipsum Inc., Ayala Malls, Bench, Cebu and Dole & Bi.

Noteworthy artists who have donated artworks include Carlos Celdran, Ito Dias, Bernardo Gonzaga, Anard Lizares Dias, Kristine Dee, Jessica Dizon, Mich Dulce, Tess Eguerrero, Antonio Lab, Isabelle, E. Mir, Mondrichi, Ramon Orlina, Debbie Ruiz, Gino Gianfranco Ruiz, Ronald Ventura, Paul Jan Pascual, Jory Simpson, Paolo Silvano, Vince Sollanano, Paul Soriano, Ruby Tiscala and Chito Vijandre of PHBelo Velasco, Ray Eames, and Jeanne Specht Artworks for Children, Mr. Hughes, Gwen Paul.

Auction for Artists will run from May 23 at 9:00am on July 7 to the Pinaki Cup quadrin in Manila.

* * *

UNICEF Country Representative Veronica Kabeer observes, "This is a first for Unicef Philippines. Auctions are a fun and creative way to raise funds for our programs and to create awareness of the issues affecting children around the world. Through the online auction bidding we engage the public in a new and interesting way to mobilize existing important funds for our work, we will be able to raise awareness of important issues affecting children in the Philippines and other developing countries of the Philippines and worldwide."

"I know a lot of people recognize Unicef's valuable work in children's rights, but few realize that Unicef relies entirely on voluntary contributions to help children around the world on the ground," adds Dorita Para. "I've helped them educate mums all over the country on maternal health, immunity and hygiene-feeding. This time, I want to help Unicef raise awareness and funds for their other great programs helping children with health care, access to safe water and sanitation, education, and protection from violence, abuse and exploitation."

# Asia's threesome turns four

**WORLD VIEW**

*Yuan Jiang-Jiuan*

HUAI—1,000 many regions of the world. North-west Asia faces severe political challenges in creating a viable structure of peace. But, given the area's many dynamic economies, the region is also running the most necessary if today's lack of trust is not to develop into military antagonism.

Fortunately, among the regions three major powers—China, South Korea and Japan—has been holding annual summits dispute earlier this month (instead of biannual schedule). Of course, economic interdependence has deepened over the past three decades, but nationalistic mistrust is convenient veil for political leaders in search of manipulation for domestic and diplomatic purposes.

Moreover, although the Cold War is over decades in the past, South Korea and China remain divided nations. Furthermore, North Korea's development of nuclear weapons, its economic fragility and its repressive regime in very history as a state are causes of deep security anxiety in neighbors.

Yet, despite all of these obstacles, there are signs that leaders are beginning to recognize the global responsibilities in overcoming rivalry. The latest trilateral summit of China, South Korea and Japan is the fourth such meeting to be held, in addition to meetings that take place in international organizations and on the sidelines of APEC summits.

Unfortunately, however, the leaders of China, South Korea and Japan have not yet made any major breakthrough on the most sensitive security issues that divide them. Nor have the three countries been successful in finding effective solutions to the problem of inequalities that have emerged in their economic relations. Indeed, the trilateral trade pact of most needed to resolve these festering security disputes will require that the three countries establish their respective positions in a meaningful manner. Only in terms of—one that can address major issues in deeper analysis for a lesser regional future.

By example, at the first trilateral summit, held in May 2008, at the global economic crisis was gripping Japan, the treasury camp arrangements were agreed upon among the three powers. In the second summit, in May 2009, the three heads of state agreed to host a headline's work on a trilateral free trade agreement (FTA). If such a trilateral FTA can be established, it could help to boost Japan's exports but the potential to equal that of the economy of European Coal and Steel Community in 1952, the first step in Europe's integration process.

In last year's third trilateral summit, the leaders of the three countries still failed to establish a formal cooperation secretariat in Seoul to assist administrative coordination among the three governments. They also adopted a framework for cooperation in the year 2020.

Among the issues discussed at this year's summit in Tokyo, a key sound out. Here, Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan, President Lee Myung-bak of South Korea, and Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao agreed to strengthen mutual cooperation on nuclear safety and disaster-related activities, reflecting the three states' concerns about how effectively they can cooperate in preventing and confronting a nuclear crisis like the one in Fukushima.

They also promised to cooperate on development of renewable energy, improvement of energy efficiency, and promotion forests of North Korea. In addition, they agreed to speed up the negotiations for a trade pact. Yet, South Korea and China have already finished a feasibility study for a bilateral FTA, and probably will move into formal negotiations soon.

In the summit's joint declaration and the three leaders' remarks at the concluding press conference, one can see China's clear intention to encourage bilateral relations with Japan by promoting cooperation on the issues of Japanese imports that might be contaminated by radiation from Fukushima. Given Japan's gradual shift in its regional stability, particularly given the deterioration in Sino-Japanese relations following last year's confrontation over the issue of a Chinese fishing boat in Japan's coast guard.

China's cooperative approach to Japanese exports was a response to Kan's ongoing effort to calm international concern about the safety of Japan's agricultural products. But undoubtedly Beijing also wanted to encourage Japanese tourists to visit China. Chinese tourists' visits to Japan in the 2nd decade on each previously will boost his economically struggle domestic political support.

Last, meanwhile, despite evolving in the face the issues of North Korea's nuclear and missile programs, the trilateral summit's joint statement on North Korea, reached by the six-party talks involving the United States, China, Japan, South Korea and Russia, was disappointing.

Though the history of the relations of relations between China, Japan and South Korea is short, it marks a new and constructive effort toward regional cooperation. This kind of pragmatic and functional approach, if strengthened, promises to generate momentum for cooperation on more sensitive security issues.

At home as his security relations between South Korea and the United States, US ally, and China have been most in less confrontational. Strengthening these two countries' relations with China would increase the possibility of building a new, peaceful order for Northeast Asia. Indeed, measures to encourage a climate of genuine trilateral cooperation are the only effective ways to improve regional security.

*Project Syndicate*

Yuan Jiang-Jiuan, South Korea's foreign minister in 2003-2004, is currently professor of international relations at Seoul National University.

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# TALK of the TOWN

Please send feedback to: [illegible]@inquirer.com.ph

Edna Juan P. Bantolina Jr.

# Heading off a food crisis

By Teodoro C. Mendoza

PEOPLE formed long lines near Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City in April 2008 for government-subsidized rice.

FOOD self-sufficiency will preoccupy whoever is in government. In contrast with the 20th century, when food prices fell, the 21st century is expected to see food prices rise.

"The world is just one poor harvest away from chaos in the grain markets. Food prices will rise to previously unimaginable levels. Food riots will multiply, political unrest will spread and governments will fall," said Lester Russell Brown, founder and president of Earth Policy Institute, based in Washington D.C.

Recently, a Japanese investment bank, Nomura, listed the countries that would be affected in a prolonged food price spike. The Philippines ranked 13th among the top 25 countries based on its danger of having a food crisis.

To better address the emerging crisis, it is necessary to have a convincing dialogue with the assertion of changing policies and thinking. The public should know the major factors answered factors that threaten food supplies and cause prices to go up.

**1. Climate change.** The climate change has affected not only global supplies and prices of wheat, sugar and soybeans but also prices of rice and other food items. Last year, because of the drought and scorching summer last year in March 2016, Philippine rice imports in the United States, which produces 48 percent of corn and supplies 79 percent of corn exports, prices of food will soar.

But blaming the weather as the culprit in the impending food crisis will not help as we cannot control the annual or until the source" as the song goes. Let us adapt quickly.

**2. Biofuel.** In 2006-2007, 7% percent of the food price increases were mainly attributed to the use of food crops in producing biofuel. On April 8, the FAO Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reasoned that biofuel production was causing food prices to increase. The price of cassava flour from Thailand, for instance, was up 20 percent. Cassava flour, a down substitute for wheat flour, is exported to Europe mainly for biofuel production.

But why are food scarces for biofuel?

**3. Oil prices.** Oil prices affect food production. Tillage, threshing, irrigation and transport are oil-based. Moreover affecting food production are inputs, particularly fertilizer. To make 1 kg of nitrogen (N) fertilizer requires 1.80 liters of diesel oil equivalent (LDOE). There is also the post-manufacturer energy bill. The fertilizer consumes 2.33 LDOE when it reaches the Philippines. To produce a ton of palay requires 60 kg of nutrients (8-20-10 kg N, which translates to 20.6 LDOE.

At $3.51 a barrel, the price of urea is about P1,300/kg. If the price of oil rose to $110 a barrel, the price of urea would be at least P2,000 per bag. Farmers will not be able to apply 100 kg N to produce 5 tons/ha. Yield will decrease proportionally to the drop in N fertilizer input. It has been estimated that 50-60 percent of crop yield.

A 50-percent decrease in fertilizer use will translate to 25-30 percent drop in yield. As a whole, this will be about 4.8 million to 4.8 million tons of unmilled rice if processed in 4 million hectares (16 million tons of paddy rice).

**4. Importation.** Importing rice is an action that any president of the Philippines will make if there's a shortage, but it is a stop-gap measure. If India and China suddenly temper rice flows Thailand, Myanmar and Japan may limit price will skyrocket.

There should also be an awareness of the country's huge rice imports in the past decade. In 2008, the country imported 2.42 million metric tons which made the Philippines the world's largest rice importer.

Records showed that it was in 2008 when the country produced one of its highest yields at 16.8 million MT. Data on per capita consumption are instructive. In 2000-2005, per capita rice consumption was 118.9 kg. By 2008, it increased to 120 kg. At a population consumption base of 100 million, it should be pointed out that 11 million Filipinos are not consuming rice. Furthermore 10 million are poor eaters.

It is true that a number of Filipinos like athletes and people who work in the fields eat at least 140 kg per capita. But what about young children, aged 0 to 10, senior citizens and people who are so concerned about their weight? It is critical to examine whether we are eating enough rice.

**5. Rice yield.** To achieve rice self-sufficiency by 2013, the country must increase yield from 3.6 tons to at least 5 tons/ha. Consider the following data. Rice production = area × yield = 4.7 million ha. (irrigated area = 1.9 million ha., rain-fed area = 1.3 million ha. (BAS 2010). From 2000 to 2009, the average yields for irrigated and rain-fed areas were only 4.3 and 3.0 tons/ha, respectively.

A yield of 5 tons/ha is achievable. We have farmers harvesting more than 8 tons/ha. To achieve an average yield of 5 tons/ha for the 4.2 million ha planted to crops, we need to address constraints like soil, water, inputs and output prices, technology, irrigation inputs (seeds, inputs and fertilizers), pesticides and support for farmers.

**6. Water and rice production.** It will be constraining population from 100 million, we only need 10-15 million tons of unmilled rice. Where will we get all the water needed to produce that volume requiring 90-75 billion tons of water? (A ton of rice requires 1,500 tons of water. Depending irrigated areas, could increase yield 2-3 ton more/ha).

Two things must be considered in paying more irrigation facilities.

One is the huge cost, which now stands at about P600,000 ha and may even go up. Irrigating 500,000 ha needs P300 billion.

Another is preserving further conversion of prime irrigated lands into residential, commercial and industrial areas.

The ideal ratio of farmers and agro-ecosystems is 50-50 (50 hectares/farmer) but the efforts will come after 10 years.) The condition of our watersheds is manifested by the effectiveness of our irrigation systems. Many of our irrigation systems are simply dam-water diversions. This explains why irrigation systems have insufficient water

**Per capita rice consumption, population and rice imports** (2000-2008)

| Year | Consumption per person (kg) | Population (million) | Total consumption (in 1,000 tons) | Imported rice (tons) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2000 | 103.74 | 79.58 | 7,958.36 | 434,555 |
| 2001 | 102.17 | 70.66 | 8,150.64 | 146,295 |
| 2002 | 106.86 | 82.35 | 8,684.01 | 1,258,000 |
| 2003 | 107.20 | 91.83 | 8,791.73 | 987,000 |
| 2004 | 110.86 | 93.58 | 9,190.84 | 943,000 |
| 2005 | 110.86 | 95.26 | 95,158.08 | 1,500,000 |
| 2006 | 110.15 | 96.61 | 10,220.24 | 1,827,000 |
| 2007 | 120.24 | 98.11 | 11,798.76 | 1,700,000 |
| 2008 | 120.12 | 98.84 | 11,868.95 | 2,450,000 |
| 2009 | 119.68 | 99.91 | 11,960.68 | 1,750,000 |

*The world is just one poor harvest away from chaos in the grain markets. Food prices will rise to previously unimaginable levels. Food riots will multiply, political unrest will spread and governments will fall*

during prolonged droughts.

**7. Support for farmers.** The current rice self-sufficiency program is in the right direction. Direction setting, however, is different from accomplishing the goal.

Farmers are unhappy with the support they get from consumers and the government. The retail price of rice at P24/kg should translate to P15/kg when bought from directly farmers at their threshers or to P20/kg at 13 to 14 percent moisture content. In harvest time, readers hear rice from farmers for as low as P11/kg values rice break-even price is about P13/kg (cost of production). This happened for two cropping seasons.

The low farm-gate price has further deepened the livelihood woes of farmers. This will make them resort to input cost-cutting on soil adoption measures. They will not apply sufficient fertilizers as yields will go down. The "unjust price of rice" paid to our farmers must be addressed because it is the root cause of poverty in the rice-lands. This means that the rural economy revolves around rice.

Why are our farmers becoming more impoverished? We can relate this to the low prices of palay at harvest time and the high interest-bearing loans they incur to grow rice. We cited computing the equivalent wage of farmers in a region to gain rice prices. Using the national average yield of 3.6 tons/ha, the farm gate price should be P21 for the farmer to earn a minimum wage of P200/day, which is P1000 more than the living farm is income of P8000 a day.

At a higher yield of 5.4 tons/ha, the farm gate price should be P14/kg for the farmer to earn P300 a day. To earn the living wage of P8000/day the farm gate price should be P10/kg. The question is, How many farmers obtain 5.4 tons/ha? Sincerely inquisitive is to consider is farm-gate prices rising to P13/kg, which will push the retail price of rice to P24/kg, a level that may not be afford able to many.

What can be done?

The looming food crisis should be addressed from production to consumption.

On the consumption side, discouraging our food-culture, inefficiency of rice stems is not the correct approach. We could easily be food-calorie-energy sufficient with our current production systems by doing the following:

✦ Reducing rice loss (3.5 percent (3.5 million tons) where corn, we can easily satisfy the demand. Studies showed that corn can be mixed with rice up to 30 percent. We produce about 7 million metric tons of corn. So there are mainly yellow corn.

We should have a program of growing white corn for food. Corn is mostly grown in upland rain-fed areas. Growing corn in lowland irrigated areas expands the service areas three to four times. Furthermore, we can rotate lowland cultivated seasons like root crops and bananas.

✦ Tempering our white-rice consumption and shifting to brown rice. If we take 50 percent brown rice with our well-milled rice, we could be self-sufficient in rice (Brown rice leads to an 8- to 14-percent increase in milling recovery and a 25- to 40-percent increase in rice consumption). Moreover, brown rice is more nutritious than well-milled rice.

✦ Eating more vegetables and fruits. Filipinos consume raw amounts of vegetables at 40 kg per capita while the Chinese consume at 220 kg per capita. Vegetables provide many micronutrients and carry fiber that the body needs.

On the production side, helping farmers produce more rice but learning them to sell their produce at better break-even price is a relatively worse than breaking or drought. Some possibilities are as follows:

✦ The government should implement a P50/kg government price for our farmers. It costs P13/kg to produce rice. If the palay of all containers to increase, the break-even price of P13/kg will also increase.

✦ There is the date for minors and private corporations to help farmers. Would-be-do families should buy in volume rice (or vegetables) at 120 centavos to P08/kg = P160,000 at 2 million families). This is equivalent to a P1.8 billion infusion into the pockets of farmers and corporations. Of course, the P50 price necessary to contain the rice traders' price manipulation at harvest time.

✦ Private companies that employ more than 400 people should have the rice requirements of their employees, at 1 cavan a month = 400 = 4,800 cavans a year or 7,200 cavans of unmilled rice at P10/kg, if we have 5,000 corporations that will respond to this call, it will translate to a 900.5-million direct rice purchase from farmers through their cooperatives.

This money (P97.5 billion) is roughly the amount (25-30 per cent) required to control the traders' control of the price of rice during harvest season (October to November and March to April).

✦ Many can solve soil-making organic and sustainable farming. We now have an Organic Agriculture Act. But going organic is not like going on a picnic! Going organic agriculture needs soil rehabilitation or soil fertility restoration.

Restoring soil fertility is a slow-and-gradual process. Experiences show that three to five years are required to rehabilitate rice soil. The practical thing to do is to adopt soil rehabilitation and cost-reduction farming practices.

These practices can be adopted immediately:

✦ Implement a nationwide no-rice-straw burning. A ton of straw is equivalent to a bag of urea. About 3 tons/ha of rice straws are simply burnt.

✦ Integrate when-straw-recycling (biodegradable wastes) to provide partially the organic matter requirements of our fields. More than 50 percent of our population lives in urban areas.

We can require our farmers to become soil fertility if the need is there. The full-scale implementation of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program with reform-beneficiaries-zone.

Seed and equipment support for organic farming should also be provided. Organic farming is mostly labor-intensive, they have less farm-lodge-lodge crop-species.

**Diversified agriculture**

In diversified agriculture must be pursued. Farmers must be oriented on propagation of varieties seed lots (varieties and recalcitrant) and appropriate post-harvest technology, storage, tillers and protect of various crop-species.

The shift to diverse agriculture requires reintegrating or re-designing the farms to enhance the ecological processes on soil resources of the various crops species to be grown for the farmers. Equipment for soil-digging (backhoe) and seed materials construction (bulldozer) must be made available to farmers.

Finally, Filipinos will not go hungry if all the able-bodied press their own food in enhanced quantities. There are still many idle spaces and the Philippine climate is an accommodating for our crops.

We need to implement "home-to-hold-based agriculture." Integrated farm-to-market roads and irrigation canals are inevitably component for our vegetables and fruit trees around the house.

In doing so, we solve the many problems of food scarcity and disposal of waste that clog our waterways and cause flash floods during the rainy season.

*[Teodoro C. Mendoza is a professor of crop science at the College of Agriculture, UP Los Baños. He is an educator and practitioner of small-scale biodiverse organic farming.]*

Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

Across the NATION

# Mining firm accused of using 'lumad'

## Ex-Army execs shield operations that DENR stopped, but were resumed

BAYOG, Zamboanga del Sur—A tribal chieftain here accused former military officials of using Subanon folk as dummies in operating a mining company.

Rajo Abdul Paraguay, of the Kolumod Commission on the Indigenous Peoples in Western Mindanao, also issued a similar statement.

Paraguay said despite having Subanon leaders on its list of officials, Lepa Pagpartowan Mining Co. Inc. (LPMCI) is not owned by the Subanons.

Lawyer Manala, of the Pigsalabukid Tuburan de Bayog and Kolum tol Paraguay Commission, said the ex-military officials also commission them by fielding heavily armed personnel under ZVTA Security Agency, which they also operate.

"The situation made us desperate and wary of things to come," Manala said.

Retired Gen. Alexander Siapchieng, who runs ADTA, denied they were intimidating the Subanons.

He said "all the security personnel assigned at Lepa Pagpartowan are 100 percent Subanons."

"They were hired to protect their surveyed domain," he said.

Siapchieng said the Subanons could not possibly intimidate their own people.

"We have a legitimate operation and licensed personnel and our crew has armed anyone," he said.

Manala said he and his group have been opposing the operation of LPMCI because they know that it was only being used as a front.

He said Lepa president Abraham Moreta Jr., a Manobo from Davao, had initially offered him a share in the mining company, which listed other Subanon leaders as shareholders, but he rejected it.

Manala said when he rejected the offer, Moreta had told him his former wives were hot.

"He said that his business ventures with the military and I might regret my decision not to join," he said. Moreta could not be reached for comment.

Siapchieng said he could speak for LPMCI and he could issue assurances that it is owned by the Subanons.

But an LPMCI document, which the Inquirer obtained, showed that one of its owners is Manuel Go, of the Cebu Mining and Management Corp. Cebu Mining has a partnership with the China Metallurgical Group for Mineral Resources and Development.

Manala said Moreta may have been correct in claiming his former wives influenced.

He said the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) under then-DENR Secretary Michael Defensor is widened its exploration permit for early this month, the company-operated area.

He said the company also deployed more armed security personnel. Mayor Leonardo Bohol confirmed the armored operation of LPMCI and assisted its officials in disarming the forces.

"They don't even have clearance," he said.

Albert Adriano Jacilla, MGB chairman for Western Mindanao, submitted receiving reports of LPMCI's unarmed operations despite the April 15 cease-and-desist order on mineral mining resources.

But he said the MGB could only do so much because LPMCI has a valid operation permit by exploration, which was issued by then Environment Secretary Lito Atienza.

Atienza issued the special permit based on the Indigenous People's Rights Act, Jacilla said.

The law says indigenous communities can explore their ancestral domain for mineral resources, he added. (The Phil and Julie delpeña, Inquirer Mindanao)

## Ombudsman stops suspension of Quezon town mayor

By Ombi T. Mallari Jr.
Inquirer Southern Luzon

TAYABAS, Quezon—The Ombudsman has recalled a 2010 order suspending Tayabas Mayor Roderick Umali, giving the mayor breathing space.

In the ruling dated May 16, 2011, Ombudsman officials overruled the Inquirer on Friday, the Ombudsman admitted it "relied only on the exparte claim" of complainant Esperidion Bautista-Bolilan, a Bar member opposite in Tayabas when it ordered the two-month suspension without pay of Umali on Nov. 30, 2010.

The new order signed by Assistant Solicitor, director of the evaluation and investigation office of the Office of the Deputy Ombudsman for Luzon and approved by acting Ombudsman Orlando Casimiro, said the complaint against the mayor needed further investigation.

Bolilan alleged in her complaint that Umali closed her office months inside the town proper without due process. The Ombudsman ruled with the complainant and ruled that the mayor abused his power.

Last week, the Department of Interior and Local Government ordered the enforcement of the suspension order. The mayor immediately filed a motion for reconsideration.

The mayor said he ordered the Bar member closed his service of measure, among them the sale of automotive arms, absence of a permit to operate and public fees.

## *Priest ends 2,060-km Davao to Aparri walk*

DAVAO CITY—Rain-or-shine-standing, retired priest Amado Picardal on Friday completed his 57-day journey on foot from this city to the north.

In a text message to the Inquirer also on Friday, Picardal said he arrived in Aparri, Cagayan, around 4:45 p.m.

"Thankful of my journey. Finishing. Forward from God unto to Aparri in Cagayan. Praise be to God," Picardal said in his earlier text message.

Speaking later to the Inquirer by phone, the 57-year-old Redemptorist priest, who had toiled around the country to push for anti-corruption prevention and a stop to extrajudicial killings, said he felt relieved to have completed his most challenging endeavors so far.

"The route, he was also calling on Malacañang to reconsider its stand on the reproductive health (RH) bill.

"I believed," he blurted out when the Inquirer contacted him by phone later on Friday.

Priest awaits Malacañang nod

He said he was diagnosed with a stress-related ailment, or angina, which is characterized by the lack of blood flow to the heart.

"It could have been a very scary journey. I was alone. But I've been aware of God's presence," Picardal said.

He said the 2,060-kilometer journey was difficult because of the heavy downpour and biting cold. So was the heat.

He also had bouts with diarrhea and dysentery.

"Psychologically and spiritually, I have a deeper faith and deeper understanding of myself," Picardal said.

Also, his advocacy pushed him harder to complete his 2,060-kilometer journey by foot.

"I never thought of stopping and was taking the travel one step at a time. I was really sure I can do it, even though I knew how difficult it was," Picardal said.

Dennis Jay Santos, Inquirer Mindanao

FR. AMADO Picardal on one of his stops on foot for the environment, a trip to extrajudicial killings, and vows to his calling as a Catholic priest, against the RH bill.

Dennis Jay Santos, Inquirer Mindanao

## NEWSBRIEFS

**DAVAO CITY**

### Onions seized

THE BOREAU of Customs (BOC) in Davao City seized an SUV-van-load of smuggled onions worth P1.4 million, an official said.

Edmundo Magbanua, BOC acting district collector, said the Port of Davao, said the onions, weighing about 700,000 kilograms, arrived in the country on May 9 and was consigned to Fiel Jaguar Merchandise.

He said on Thursday, Commissioner Angelito Alvarez ordered the shipment confiscated after it was found that the importer had not secured from the Bureau of Plant and Industry (BPI).

Ramon Mitoria, officer in charge of the BPI's Plant Quarantine Service here, said he was contacted that the shipment be sent back to its origin.

But Magbanua said the BOC would rather have the onions distributed to the poor. (Jamie Jay Santos, Inquirer Mindanao)

**COTABATO CITY**

### Resilient bank

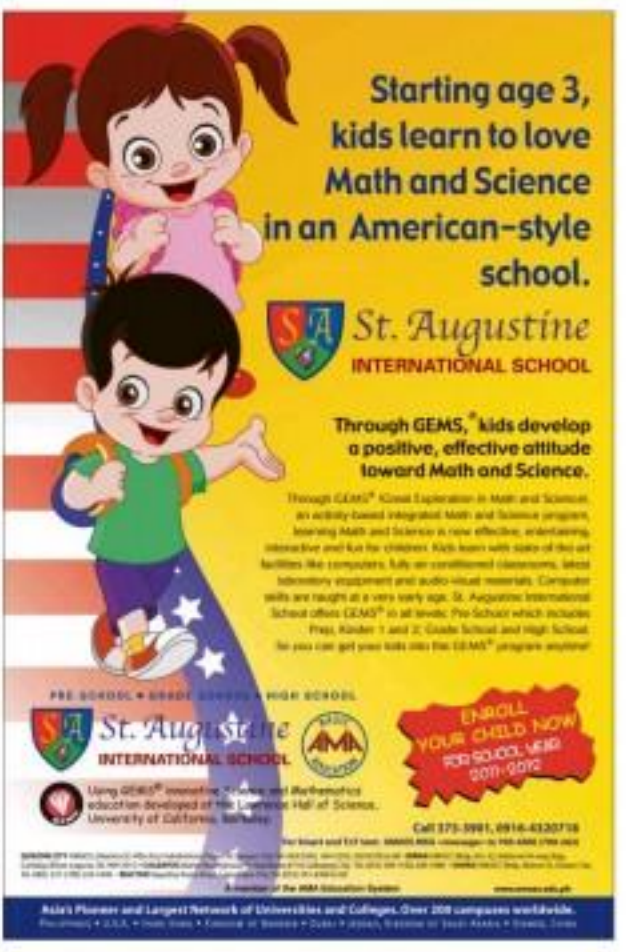
AMID LANDSLIDES, pieces and order and destroyed properties that threatened the city's economy, the Rural Bank (RB) of Columbio remains resilient.

Its founder, Eusebio Tanghal, was even kidnapped in 1980 but it did not stop the growth of the bank, which came into being in 1961.

In 2003, the US Agency for International Development sponsored Microfinance Access to Banking Services (MABS) program launched the RB Columbio into a contest for lending to non-Bol town areas.

Since the MABS program, RB Columbio has extended over P300 million in microfinance loans. About 90 percent of the borrowers are Moros.

Jun Llamido, the Nasipit Seminar and the Dasmariñas Consolidated Corporation granted the bank another 10 years of operating authority. (Inquirer Mindanao)



INQUIRER Mindanao

ARMM POLITICS LIKE NEVER BEFORE

# Who's afraid of Tingting Cojuangco?

By Nash B. Maulana
Contributor

MARGARITA "Tingting" Cojuangco, President Aquino's aunt, recalled to reporters that in 1983, she had been warned by her academic peers and professors at the University of Santo Tomas against going to Mindanao to research on Muslim culture and history for her master's thesis.

Contrary to their expectations, the socialite said she was warmly accepted by her hosts among the "strong political leaders, particularly the Sakalurans (sic) family, which is engaged in the water transport business. The family even allowed her to use one of their boats to go around the Sulu archipelago.

"We slept on mats, [how you'd normally see when you are on board a ship], and we followed the stars in navigating. Oh! What a star-gazing to hope next Muslim Mindanao!" Cojuangco told supporters at Insular Garden Hotel in Cotabato City.

On May 22, Cojuangco, accompanied by her husband, former Turbac Rep. Jose Cojuangco Jr., filed her certificate of candidacy for vice governor in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) elections.

## Rich Muslim history

She challenged young Mujiv Hataman, son of Gov. Zaldy Ampatuan, who is running for a second term as governor of the ARMM.

Earlier that day her gubernatorial running mate, former Sultan Kudarat Gov. Pax Mangudadatu, filed his own certificate of candidacy in a long convoy of vehicles carrying his supporters and political allies, all the way from Sultan Kudarat to Cotabato.

Cojuangco took reporters by surprise when she appeared at the restaurant straight from the airport after a flight from Manila and declared that she is running for vice governor.

"What has she done for the ARMM when she is from Tarlac?" she reporters asked.

## Cory's vision

Her husband and the President's uncle answered: "I and (then President) Cory (Aquino) started all this when we envisioned the ARMM (as a peaceful, development area for the Muslims."

He considered his wife's political aspiration "another opportunity" to realize that vision.

"They are both against a round political intervention by Malacañang in the ARMM, he said.

During the first ARMM election campaign period, and in many regions of political intervention from the late 1980s to the early 1990s, during the administration of then Gen. Zacarias Candao, Cojuangco was conspicuously present. She has not sold her house in Mission, Davao and has established residency there since the Candao administration.

MARGARITA "Tingting" Cojuangco, socialite and aunt of President Aquino, prays before a press conference in Manila announcing her candidacy for the vice governorship in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

"What has she done for the ARMM when she is from Tarlac?'

It had been rumored then that she was doing another research paper—this time, for the National Defense College's (NDC) graduate program leading to a Master of Arts—Degree in National Security Administration (MNSA).

Cojuangco's political ties with the Sakalurans of Jolo have led to a friendship with the family of Datu Mangudadatu, whose daughter is married to now Sultan Kudarat Rep. Padpad Sakalaran.

## 'Political mockery'

Zamzamin Ampatuan, former chair of the National Anti-Poverty Commission, said Cojuangco's candidacy might be seen even by nonresidents of the region as the "political mockery" of the ARMM.

Magundadatu Rep. Simeon Datumanong, a political ally and fraternity brother of Mangudadatu's, described Cojuangco as "grand aunt material and a friend." But he said that if Malacañang had fielded candidates for the top regional posts to face the August elections would push through, certainly it would not be Cojuangco—unless the President would ignore public criticism.

Besides, Datumanong said, both Mangudadatu and Cojuangco come from Maguindanao. "Traditionally, he explained, a tandem should be representing at least two provinces in a regional election.

Debates have raged among ARMM political pundits as to which came first—Cojuangco's NDC security thesis on Muslim Mindanao or the 1989 passage of the Organic Act (Republic Act No. 6734), which created the ARMM?

Some say her MNSA thesis became one of government's principal references in crafting the autonomous region, which claim back to the framing of the 1987 Constitution in 1986.

Cojuangco herself did not mention anything about the security paper in her speech and answers to reporters' queries. But a person close to her said the academic paper "came into experimental play during the [ARMM] administration of Candao."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OLFU

CDSOA this be the reason Malacañang wants ARMM elections postponed? Jockeying goes full blast for positions in the transition to ARMM as the PDP-Laban, led by its current head Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III, presents its candidates in the ARMM elections—ex-Rep. Pax Mangudadatu (left) and Cojuangco.

# Habitat: Youngsters build homes for a day

From page A1

"People don't get everything in life. To be given a new home is an opportunity and if the new house owners) must now be responsible for their homes and their families," she said.

### Overwhelming youth turnout

"UE" stands for the 3,000 targeted youth volunteers but the turnout was overwhelming. There were 5,000 students from universities, private schools and private and public universities and colleges in Manila that volunteered to participate.

"It was a record number of youth volunteers, the largest number in a single day. Its much energy and so much excitement," said Fernando Zobel de Ayala, the Habitat campaign national chair. He said it was the biggest Youth Build they've had so far in Manila.

Raven Davila, the ABS-CBN news anchor who is RYSP ambassador and campaign cabinet member, said she felt "good that students from all walks of life were here building homes for our fellows (fellow) Filipinos who need to expose our kids to these realities. Not all Filipinos live well or earn their own home. They need to."

Television host Rix Aquino, an RYSP station building ambassador, donated one house per month for a year in support of the campaign.

### Ability, not disability

Reyes and her team of "differently abled" volunteers were assigned to paint a new of 98 houses that had already been constructed.

She said they did not feel any different from the other volunteers as everyone was focused on the idea of "building homes for the poor."

"As we say, it's the ability, not the disability. They can do just about anything but beer," Francisco said.

Alex Edrogan, the Habitat youth council chair, said the project send a message for the youth about "the importance of volunteerism, cooperation and teamwork" regardless of who they were or where they came from.

### Community service and workout

The rest of the volunteers were assigned in one key block to build the foundation for 98 houses. They sifted sand, pushed crate of hollow blocks and piled concrete blocks under the scorching sun. Some even drained to the head because of the heat.

But Edrogan, from Visayas, said it was both a community service and a workout as they were merely learning bit in the best.

"It's an experience to familiarize ourselves in building houses," said civil engineering student Jayson Reyes, who was with 500 engineering students from the Rizal Technological University, the biggest delegation of volunteers.

Ria Mary Anne Castillo, 25, said her sisters who are spending their one-week vacation in the Philippines, the experience of carrying their bunch so they carried concrete blocks was something to tell their friends when they return to New Jersey.

"I didn't realize it would be this easy to spring those words from different schools and building (homes) for the Filipino people," said actor and Habitat youth ambassador Matteo Guidicelli.

Posing as he laid out the bricks for a bathroom, Guidicelli said it was the first time he had joined a Youth Build.

RYSP managing director and CEO Vicky Jacinto said the houses that they had started building yesterday would be ready for use in 45 days.

The HFHP has so far built more than 500 homes, each one measuring about 20 square meters and 2.74 meters high, on this site.

### Power of youth

Jacinto said the HFHP would soon partner with the Department of Education in a future project to build houses for schoolchildren.

He said HFHP has seen how the "power of the youth and their energy can make a difference."

"It's never too early or too late for nation building. It's time we (adults) learn from them," Jacinto said.

HAND SIGNAL Wear-ing-impaired Sen.Jinggoy Estrada signals for more paint for House No. 11, which will soon be her home.

YOUTH POWER Students pose with Habitat leaders Fernando Zobel de Ayala and Ambassador Karen Davila (center) during Saturday's one-day home-building work.

# MMDA makes smokers' world smaller each day

From page A1

no-smoking campaign previously covered only government buildings.

"We are not against the smokers or the tobacco industry, but we want to protect the rights of the nonsmokers," said Dr. Lovie Lalin-Alcoreza, head of MMDA Health Public Safety and Environmental Protection.

Smoking is the leading cause of lung cancer and each cigarette stick is made up of 4,000 chemicals, she said.

"A secondhand smoker who is around a smoker has the same risk of getting cancer," Alcoreza said.

### Areas covered

The public places include bus and jeepney terminals, loading and unloading bays, parks, train stations, schools, hospitals, youth recreation centers and government offices.

The prohibition also includes a 100-meter perimeter from the public areas involved.

Warning signs will be placed in major roads.

Violators will be fined P500 on first offense while those who cannot afford to pay the fine will be required to render eight hours of community service.

The MMDA anti-smoking ordinances will start issuing tickets on July following a monthlong buffer in June to give enough time for the information to be disseminated.

Alcoreza clarified that MMDA traffic enforcers are not allowed to issue violation tickets but they can "warn and remind" violators.

Only four environmental enforcers have been assigned to monitor major roads, while local government units have their own mechanisms to implement the program in secondary roads.

### Operative laws

Violations cited Republic Act No. 9211, or the Tobacco Regulation Act of 2003, the smoking prohibitions of the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) and local ordinances as the bases for the program.

Valenzuela is the only district in Metro Manila without a local ordinance against smoking. But Alcoreza said the Valenzuela government has indicated it will be issuing such an ordinance by Monday.

Tolentino, together with the 17 Metro mayors and LTFRB Chair Nelson Cabucos, will officially launch the program, called the "100% Smoke-Free Metro" on Monday at the MMDA Makati headquarters.

The MMDA said its re-launched anti-smoking drive coincides with the World No Tobacco Day and is aimed at achieving a smoke-free Metro Manila by 2012.

### World No Tobacco Day

On May 31 each year, the World Health Organization celebrates World No Tobacco Day to draw global attention to the health risks associated with tobacco and to advocating for effective policies to reduce consumption.

Tobacco use is the second cause of death globally (after hypertension) and is currently responsible for killing one in 10 adults worldwide.

"We must be very strict in implementing our anti-smoking regulations. We want the MMDA to become a model government agency in terms of compliance," Tolentino said.

The New York-based Bloomberg Philanthropies has approved a P8.3-million grant to the MMDA to enhance its anti-tobacco campaigns.

"We should transform Metro Manila into a smoke-free community. A healthy Metro Manila is a healthy and progressive Philippines," Tolentino said.

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Sunday SPORTS

Editor Tarkiyah S. Maimandas
Assistant Editor Francis T.J. Delos Reyes

# Gilas five crushes Saudis; Jordan, Iran triumph

By Cedrik F. Tupas

JAYSTH AGUILAR pumped in 20 points in a very aggressive game to lead the lineup of Gilas Pilipinas Boo in an 86-59 drubbing of Al-Ittihad of Saudi Arabia at the start of the Fiba Asia Champions Cup at the Philsports Arena.

Sweaties Hakuna of Jose and Jiff of Jordan also reached opening-day victories in convincing fashion.

The former, behind reliably American import Jamar Williams, pulled away in the second quarter en route to an 86-59 win over Al-Ittihad of Syria, while the Jordanians, dragging off jetlag, swamped Duhok of Iraq, 74-66.

"I just wanted to be aggressive," said Aguilar, who also had six rebounds and a block. "I gained a lot of confidence from the start we made in practice. It's only the first game. It just gets tougher from here."

Highlighting his ferocious play, the 6-foot-9 Aguilar blasted a dunk with authority in the third quarter, sparking a 6-0 break play that he completed with an emphatic dunk on the other end.

Their offense finally coming alive, the Azkals reasserted the game-wide open feel, with Aguilar and teammate Jayson Castro doubling scoreboard for 30 straight points in a two-minute stretch, giving Gilas its first double-digit lead at 38-27.

"We knew that we were the better team," said Smart Gilas coach Rajko Toroman. "I think they were a little tired and nervous."

Refusing to pull their punches, the nationals completed three straight defensive gems with consecutive baskets to open the third period for a 57-34 upload.

By then, the Saudi squad began pulling out its key players while Gilas kept the pressure up with reinforcements.

SMART GILAS guard Chris Lutz leaps to recover the loose ball under pressure from Saudi Arabia's Adel Aljuhani

# Singapore GM dooms Torre's Zonal bid

By Ray Luarca

TAGAYTAY CITY—Singaporean Grandmaster Zhang Zhong lived up to his lofty billing last night, downing Filipino GM Eugene Torre in the seventh round to boost his title bid in the Asian Zonal Chess Championship at the Tagaytay International Convention Center here.

Playing the pieces the match of Zhang's two consecutive passes against his lone peers, Torre, who handled black, outmaneuvered after 41 moves of the Ruisch opening and lost ground in the nine-round competition ending two-time World Cup battler.

Zhong, the tournament's top seed with an Elo rating of 2595, climbed to 6.0 points to the company of Gibi Mark Bergado of the Philippines and Susanto Megaranto of Indonesia, who drew their match.

Bicolano GM Darwin Laylo (2.0 points) was still locked in a tight battle against Singaporean IM Evelyn Oek Wei Ming (4.5 points) at presstime.

Two-time Olympian John Paul Gomez won by default over countryman Fide Master Randy Bagacay to catch up with Torre, FM Jan Emmanuel Garcia and GM Antonio Zapata Jr. and Vietnamese GM Luu Thien Hai at 4.5 points.

Handling black, Antonio, representing HRBE of the Philippine Army, settled for a draw with Ilan after 31 moves of a Regis Indian attack while Garcia, newly crowned Asian Youth under-16 titlist, held Vietnamese GM Cao Sang to a draw.

Vietnamese WWGM Nguyen Thi Thanh Anh downed erstwhile pacesetter WGM Irine Khaletska Sukandar of Indonesia to surge ahead of the women's division with 5.5 points.

Nguyen then boosted her chances for the lone Women's World Championship berth.

HEADS UP. Pangilinan (left) presents a plaque of recognition to Fiba Asia president Sheikh Saud bin Al Ali Thani al Qasar.

## MVP wants more tournaments here

THE STRONG of the Fiba Asia Champions Cup in the Philippines could just be the start of a string of top-caliber international basketball tournaments hosted by the country.

Reinforcing Undersheld top Philippine president Manny V. Pangilinan Friday night expressed his desire to host more tournaments in the Philippines to boost the country's profile in Asia.

"That's our hope," Pangilinan said when asked on the thought of staging more tournaments in the Philippines.

"This is good for Filipino basketball players and fans to be exposed to these tournaments. We are open to Fiba Asia."

Pangilinan made the statement during the welcome dinner for participating teams in the Championship Cup at the Manila Hotel. Philippine Cup.

The tournament, Pangilinan said, augurs well for the country's preparations for the Fiba-Asia Championship in Wuhan, China, where the Smart Gilas Philippine National Team will be looking to qualify for the London, Olympics next year.

The Smart Gilas program started in late 2008, a few months into Pangilinan's term as SBP president.

"We just with that they perform to their best," said Pangilinan of the squad bannered by former collegiate standouts and national team player Marcus Douthit.

Gold/FP Sapon

## Favorites sustain splurge in PNG

By Jane Navarro

BACOLOD CITY—Olympic archer Mark Javier, top wrestler Hungerito Angana Jr. and world class race artist Bobbies Amit took the spotlight yesterday on the penultimate day of the Philippine National Games here.

Javier, a veteran of the 2008 Beijing Olympics and 2010 Guangzhou Asian Games, ruled the 70-meter Olympic round of men's recurve with 1,000 top-ping the preliminary 70m, 50m and single Fita events.

Former Mintas Animal Javier a sweep, however after bowing him by a single point, 347-346 in the 50m.

Amit, the country's first female world pool champion, ruled the women's nine-ball singles over Mary Ann Bauza, 11-7, while Angana, the No. 1 Grace-co man specialist based on national rank-ing, was unchallenged in the 55-kilogram weight category.

Marie Ursabelle Wenio, an incoming Silliman University High School senior, sparkled in women's recurve, winning the 50m, 60m, 60m, 70m and single Fita.

Amit, the 2009 women's world 10-ball champion, eased to a 9-2 lead but lost the next five racks before getting her three back to coast out the last two frames.

Bauza reached the finals after defeating 11-year-old Dyaks Gonzaga, 9-3, in the last's bracket, at the Gaisano Mall.

"There's a risk on the line so I cannot, or this a big win," said the 28-year-old Amit.

Jeffrey De Luna captured the gold in the men's side following an 11-9 win over Davao marathon Eddie Tagadu, a 9-8 winner over Ramil Gallego in the semifinals.

In team, Darlene Bienvenido accused top seed and older sister Christine, 6-4, 6-2, to clinch the women's singles gold medal while top-ranked Elbert Amado subdued unseeded Israel Atanacio of Cebu, 6-3, 7-5, for the men's plum at the Center Court Tennis Courts.

The daughters of former PBA MVP Alvin Patrimonio easily hurdled their opponents in the semifinals with the 18-year-old Christine trouncing Tanatha Oliveros-Nguyen, 6-2, 6-2, and Garnae, 17, ousting Marione Capadocia, 6-1, 6-1.

Other [illegible] had more trauma and practice time coming in," said Christine, the country's former No. 1 female player.

The thirteen-time winners, who accepted challenges at National Universities for the coming school year, also grabbed the women's doubles at the expense of Oliveros-Nguyen and Capadocia, 6-7, 6-4, 6-3.

Atanacio, 30, a former Davis Cupper, later teamed up with Arman Hermogenes to oust a 6-4, 6-4 triumph over Antonio Lascano and Oliver Tablizo-ed in the men's doubles finals.

Another shifting rivalry emerged in soft events after Joseph and Jhemar Arcilla finished 1-2 in the men's singles. Noelle Cornelio Jolina clinched the women's singles.

JAYVEE ESPADA (right) of Baguio comes to with a left to Cainen Mendoza of Iloilo during wushu competitions of the national games.

Mary Joshua Bonus clinched the gold in girls' triathlon in one hour, 23 minutes and three seconds, 14 minutes ahead of runner-up Samantha Vin (1:37:18) while Kevin Ojamontes ruled the boys' side in 1:07:46. Banjo Nem settled for silver (1:08:21).

Top triathlon favorite Philip Jayson failed to finish after he was hit by a motorcycle in the early stretch of the bike leg and sustained bruises on different parts of his body.

Wrestler Joshua Borghesa, 16, set new marks in the secondary and youth categories after lifting 90kgs in the snatch and 108 in the clean and jerk for a total of 198, erasing the previous secondary and youth records in the snatch (76), clean and jerk (100) and total (176).

## Sacked karatekas want to prove worth

By Marc Anthony Reyes

A DAY OFF

That was the challenge hurled by the sacked members of the national karatedo squad after their bid to reclaim their slots while their last after refusing to compete in the PDC-PEC National Games.

Led by two-time Southeast Asian Games champion and Asian Games silver medalist Mutia Fadzilun, the five members of the team, who were stripped of their monthly allowances and following privileges, said they are ready to take on their prospective replacements in the 19 pool.

"If they want to see who have a line-off," said Fadzilun, 30, "Whoever wins will represent the country in the SEA Games."

In a talk with sportswriters Friday, Fadzilun's parents said they were no competition for them in the National Games except for the 27 year-old and under and open category, which is not among the events in the Indonesia SEAG.

But former Philippine Karatedo Federation president Jose Romasanta said the PKF is the only committee can still decide who are worthy of SEAG slots even in the absence of weight classes.

Ateneo de Davao's Kevin Ojamontes ruled the boys' side in 1:07:46. Banjo Nem settled for silver (1:08:21).

Top triathlon favorite Philip Jayson failed to finish after he was hit by a motorcycle in the early stretch of the bike leg and sustained bruises on different parts of his body.

Wrestler Joshua Borghesa, 16, set new marks in the secondary and youth categories after lifting 90kgs in the snatch and 108 in the clean and jerk for a total of 198, erasing the previous secondary and youth records in the snatch (76), clean and jerk (100) and total (176).

STARTING EARLY. Young kids take part in a hoop shot jointly conducted by Spalding and Hoops Schools to celebrate Dribble to the Spalding Basketball Clinic), the most promising kids an affordable means to learn the fundamentals of the game. Spalding, available at Prime branches, will continue hosting more clinics.

## Juvic eyes No. 3 at ICTSI Eastridge Classic

MA-A'S 2008 Juvic Pagunsan goes for his third victory in four starts on the ICTSI-Philippine Golf Tour as he leads the field in the P1 million ICTSI Eastridge Classic which begins June 1 at the Eastridge Golf Club in Binangonan, Rizal.

Pagunsan closed out with record nine-under par 63 at The Orchard to Palmer Course to win by three over Elmer Salvador in ICTSI Dormant Golf Championship he overtook, ago. Two seconds rung after scoring an equally convincing victory at the inaugural Kids-at-Big at Royal Mactan Beach Golf Month.

The win is the P2.5 million winner, the richest leg so far in the four-race circuit organized by Philippine Golf Tour-nament, Inc., (pdfgolf Pagunsan P500,000, hiking his earnings to P850,000 for the Order of Merit lead.

Salvador is in second with P500,000 earnings while Tony Lascuña posted advantage of P500,000 followed by Dexter Cormzar (P340,000), Angelo Que (P320,000), Frankie Minoza (P307,000), Jay Bayron (P180,000), Gerald Rondain (P159,000), Anthony Fernandez (P120,000) and Jhonnel Medina (P117,000) in third rank.

Meanwhile, the 500-strong will be held at Tagaytay Midlands, another Ernie Els-designed layout, from June 22 to 24 for the ICTSI Midlands Challenge.

From June 11 to 16, the top players of the tournament will again compete with the leading players in the region in the ICTSI Mt. Malarayat Championship.

# Tams drub Knights; Lions, Cards triumph

By Jaccian N. Faye

DOMINANT ALL the way, Far Eastern University shellacked Letran, 72-50, to complete a 4-0 sweep of the FilOil Flying V Hunes Preseason Premier Cup yesterday at the PhilSA Playing V Arena in San Juan.

Tippy Bienvenido came through with 13 points and seven rebounds and Terrence Romeo also had 13 markers on top of three assists and two steals to power the Tamaraws to their eighth straight victory.

In the beginning, Garvo Lanete buried the game-opening triple with 2:31 on the clock left in NCAA champion San Beda tipped Ly Solis, 76-66, to leave an even quarterfinal berth in Group A.

The Archers, who slipped to 2-3, had a chance at four-quarter time, but LA Revilla missed the ball over on the final play.

"They denied well, we forced them to commit that turnover," said coach Frankie Lim after Mr. Lions climbed to fourth at 5-1.

Rather, Mapúa also kept its quarterfinal bid going following an 88-75 triumph over Emilio Aguinaldo in Group B.

Filipino-Dalmatian Round Tobe collected 16 points, 13 rebounds, four assists and a steal as the Cardinals improved to 4-3.

Before Lanete's game-winner, the Archers paddled the lead in 68-66 after a cue capped by five straight points from Al-mond Maverick. Lanete led the Lions with 12 points while Jake Pascual added 10 and eight boards.

**The scores**

**FAR EASTERN 72** — Bienvenido 13, Romeo 13, Nieto 10, Cu 7, Mendoza 6, Pascual 5, Ayaay 4, Ilagan 3, Ebona 3, Dionisio 2, Tiu 2, Sandoval 0, Alejandro 0, Lim 0, Ramos 0.

**LETRAN 50** — Lanete 12, Pascual 10, Gilbuena 7, Ebona 5, Cruz 4, Mendoza 4, Quiwa 3, Ilagan 3, Nieto 0, Cu 0, Ramos 0, Dionisio 0, Alejandro 0, Lim 0.

Quarters: 16-13, 38-25, 54-41, 72-50.

**MAPÚA 88** — Tolentino 23, Round 16, Sobrejuanite 12, Alfaro 11, Cruz 6, Bienvenido 5, Clarito 5, Jumalon 5, Gonzales 4, Gonzales 3, Cruz 3, Ramos 1, Lim 0, Mendoza 0, Sison 0, Sabellina 0.

**EAC 75** — Ayaay 16, Salado 16, Sabellina 12, Gonzales 11, Cruz 7, Cruz 6, Bienvenido 5, Clarito 5, Jumalon 5, Gonzales 4, Gonzales 3, Cruz 3, Ramos 1, Lim 0, Mendoza 0, Sison 0, Sabellina 0.

Quarters: 17-15, 33-31, 58-48, 75-66.

AB GARCIA of FEU scores a slam against Andrei Mamiko of Letran

# High Toroman hopes for Gilas

IF THE major basketball event in the country last week was the PBA All-Star in Boracay, this week it is the Gilas Pilipinas Asia Championship scheduled in the Philippine Arena in Bocaue.

With 10 Asian teams participating, especially coming from the Middle East, the Philippines has been blocked with Australia, Qatar, Iraq and Saudi Arabia while the other group was made up of Lebanon, Jordan, United Arab Emirates, Iran and Syria.

Coach Yeng Guiao and during the press conference held at Mr. Kadandiin in Greenbelt 5 last Thursday, he shared the belief that national first to qualify automatically to the World Cup in China next year.

"We can deny very much better than we did in the PBA," the coach from Serbia said, stating the importance of mental preparation as one of the reasons for the weight forward.

The addition of Ryan Buenafer to the coaching staff is another factor, he said.

"I'm very strong [support]."

A day after Buenafer made the lineup, the Rizal Shopping reunite in the Olympian Cup paraded at the Manila Multi-Purpose Hall in Quiapo Avenue for the opening ceremonies.

Sending them off and fully the other teams also assembled for the party, an event denied if, as Buenafer stated, we could manage to be very competitive.

On stage, the Philippines and can Southeast Asian neighbor Malaysia appeared the closest hosts.

But that's not our secret, coach says of the author. "Perhaps Bonnan has a secret formula to neutralize the opponents' height advantage."

PBA president Mamit V. Pangilinan didn't have a forecast. He just said he expected Daniel Gilas to play his best.

While MPP is still head and host of the participant sporting event, and Office-bite president Ibrahh Imad Jr. Zhou were the one of the hour during the opening ceremonies, Baler Sangsa turned out to be the most sought-after by the press.

There were so many things to discuss with him, like TV5's bid for the TV coverage of the PBA, his recent open disagreement with MVP for professional table concerning the possible acquisition of the Alaska franchise by the PBA and the recent ownership of Mr. Ayala Heights home for Danone City.

The excitement is different when this person interacts the MPP, Ipet goose bumps everywhere on talk about it," said Rich.

If he can help it, the Sangsa will be off pick the Sacramento franchise over Alaska even other blocks have a stronger lineup.

"Sacramento has a big Filipino community supporting the team," he explained, adding that MPP is considering both Filipinos team but still has only one in his personal capacity.

MPP plans to get some partners, which should make other businessmen or Atlanta the San Antonio-owned NBA team if the deal pushes through.

Pressed by a colleague to reveal the amount of the sealed bid submitted to the PBA by TV5, Baby said he was not a liberty to divulge.

ABC-CBN also made a bid for the PBA TV franchise.

**BOOKWISE.** At first, I did not recognize the book by the table of Bambi Harper-Ocampo at during a recent function. It was former PBA commish interviewer Amelie Ty, who has definitely undergone a big transformation. Although she has been host of a TV program in Los Angeles the last years, Amelie said she is open to returning to the Philippines. Amelie was engaged to be married to Nito Jefferson Lim, now the husband of Kitty Bonilla, until she changed her mind.

She says she does not regret the decision. The PBA coach needs to be a good sport, but not necessary in a sports product game with another PBA team, he had the action stopped with only eleven minutes to go before the final buzzer with the other team leading by 19 points. Some months ago, he was caught on television refusing to shake the hands of a visiting coach.

# Wozniacki gets the boot

GIANT SLAYER Daniela Hantuchova celebrates her conquest of Caroline Wozniacki.

## Hantuchova rips world No. 1; Federer cruises

PARIS—World No. 1 Caroline Wozniacki suffered a humiliating loss in the French Open third round and Samantha Stosur joined her at the exit door on a gloomy Friday for women's tennis.

Roger Federer and David Ferrer cruised on course to meet in the men's singles and the superb undisputed clash between Novak Djokovic and Juan Martin del Potro was interrupted by bad light with the duo locked at a set each.

Wozniacki was throttled, 6-1, 6-0, by 30-edition 29th seed Daniela Hantuchova, following world No. 2 Kim Clijsters out on the first round to exit before the quarterfinal round as Roland Garros for the first time since 1997.

Good luckster Robert Granger dug deep to beat Slovakian Thomas Beltucci, 6-2, 4-7, 7-6, 6-3, to follow Hantuchova to the fourth round, but a four-hour battle with Ferrer Dominic Wawrinka, 6-4, 6-7, 7-6, 6-2, 6-3.

Wozniacki looked completely out of sorts under threatening skies to the Kiffenbeck 6-1, 6-0, in less than an hour. Heading for an embarrassingly one-sided loss, Wozniacki broke back to allow Hantuchova added her opponent's ordeal in 75 minutes.

Wozniacki, whose best grand slam finish was reaching the US Open final in 2009, left the court without looking at the crowd as for want for a first grand slam title continued.

Hantuchova, however, let every moment savor, and no sooner has sound high-fiving server and punishing forehand as she suffered a 6-4, 1-6, 6-3 defeat to dogmeter-world number 52 Gisela Dulko.

Defending champion Francesca Schiavone also crashed slowly but the Italian 28th seed was beaten by Australian Casey Dellacqua who was forced to quit because of breathing problems while leading, 6-3, 1-2.

World No. 3 Federer continued his smooth progress through the tournament in the dead-cat of Dolocki and Rafael Nadal, dumping Jérémie 29th seed Jarko Tipsarevic, 6-1, 6-3, 6-3, in just 94 minutes. Reuters

CLUB CHAMPIONS TOURNEY

# Joson, Mauricio seal final duel

JOSÉ M. SOTTO HIGHS Richard Joson mastered his four fours and romped off with a 7&5 victory over Cles Han Pye to manage a showdown with Victor Gulf's Adrian Rosario for the 2011 Homecoming National Tournament of Club Champions crown at the Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club Friday.

Joson finished at the tough Dye course and dominated the best club's outgoing champion, converting his second straight emphatic triumph to earn a crack at the champs, ending the disposed of Mr. Mahaiwe's Gerald Kalaghali, 9&4, in their quarterfinal duel Thursday.

Mauricio, on the other hand, went through a merger to stop Yamani Pearl's Imanuel Gonzales, carving out a 2-up win in their own side of the street duel in the tainted event sponsored by Samsung in partnership with Globe Telecom and Smart. Eastridge rallies to reach the finals of the senior's division.

No. 7 Tomas Jones, meanwhile, lined up for a possible double victory for Royal Northwoods as he topped Alabang's Carlos Cruz-Ubando, 2-up, to advance to the other championship bracket in the tournament.

Clashing in the spread division finals are ARP GCC Mimi Tolibio and Cebalang's Reba Mobito in the ladies class and Jose Hanova, also of Cebalang, and Rancho Palos Verdes' Ramon Somnerville the men's category.

Other Visayas finals, Mahaiwe vs. 1-up.

Lisa Maggiannay rebuked off King Intending's challenge to the top seeded champion of Tagaytay Midlands posted a 2-up win over the Eastridge rallies to reach the finals of the senior's division.

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# Munti forges Hoopla 'rubber'

DEFENDING CHAMPION Hoopla topped the third set to win super tourney opening duel Tuesday, 75-57, at the Chartis gym Friday and setting up a do-or-die for the South Zone berth in the inter-Zonal phase of 2nd Coca-Cola Hoopla National Capitol Region Championship.

The double-round Inter-Zonal match-up, meanwhile, unfold today when Mandaluyong taking on Angeles at 5 p.m. and Caloocan meeting Quezon City at 7 p.m. both at the Rhandelsong SEO Gym.

Kevin Rosenthal and Christian Dagdiwa forced a deciding upset to give Rhandelsong, who is back on the place of Pasay in the playoff due to its defeat in the crucial win.

The athlete match was waging at the Rhandelsong Sports Complex at precedent, with the winner joining Quezon City (Cubi), Rhandelsong (Central), Angeles (Metro) and Caloocan (North) in the five-round round matches.

Mountaintops dominated the first three quarters, leading by 19 points on several occasions, the last at 53-40 on Rosenthal base-line's jumper.

## SPORTSWATCH

### Aston top driver 2010

YOKOHAMA, EASTBOUND Carlos demonstrate named Driver of the Year in the field of Mitchelin racing recently in the 2010 annual Automobile Association of the Philippines (AAP) Awards Night.

ASTON

Aston, a native of Bacolod City, was cited in two various racing disciplines in the country to be taken by the AAP, the local governing body for motorsports affiliated with the International Automobile Federation (FIA).

This is also Aston's fourth straight "King of the Hill" award.

"It's a great honor to accept it in the city of Baguio, where I started the best drivers should come from given its natural terrain," Mitchelin Racing Team said after receiving the award.

The 2011 Mitchelin Championship begins June 19 in La Salle.

### Suntrust golf tees off

THE PHILIPPINES, Suntrust Cup tees off today with more than 200 participants vying for top honors and raffle prizes at the Asti Mitchelin course of Silverwood Hills Golf Club in Cavite.

A Texas Hold 'em golf and a golf-ball hunt Mitchelin classification are today's main events. Other prizes on the one-day fitness event consist the formal invitational co-presented by Senators Lito Lorenzo Sr. and Teddy Boy Locsin Jr.

Golf lessons the event is lawyer Henry Pahlagian of non-club owner Suntrust Properties Inc. (SPI), chaired by the trustee Lopezcompanies Emily Mendoza and guests and the whole band of family and/or mates that is really encouraged to be additional to the future.

## Pacman eyes Pasay derby title defense

BOXING CHAMP Manny Pacquiao leads a comprehensive card of 10 local and international caliber as the sports promoter and beyond the Pasay International 8-Ball Derby at Pasay City Cockpit on May 31, June 1 and 5.

Pacquiao and Sonny Boy of Mindoro were co-champions in the Bo Bing Jr. January.

Pacquiao will be seen co-highlighting an appearance in Manny can Mindoro Mo," said PGC 2B manager Eric Alto Nina and Bulacan Union who will meet the event with Rep. Patrick Antonio.

Antonio, who is the current World Boxing Organization, also leads the cast of challengers Battleship Superior Complexion 2010. Be worth guarantee police is expected to reach P4 million.

All tickets could be subscribed between from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. For inquiries, call 840-1142, 851-8750 or 0917-687-7057.

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Aplus METRO
Editor Alexander S. Lifunday

# Community thrives from a dumpsite

By Penelope Braboa

KNOWING that it takes a community to raise a child, the Gawad Kalinga (GK) community inside Multinational Village in Parañaque City made sure it built a school in the middle of it.

"For most families here, education is seen as the way to break out from poverty," said Edmund Magnaye, the GK project coordinator that converted the former dumpsite of the youth subdivision into a thriving community.

The 2,983-square-meter land fill that was once called "twin smokey mountain" is now cleared, paved and built with new houses painted with bright colors, complete with a community center and chapel that the residents themselves have worked for.

Magnaye also said that when GK decided to transform the dumpsite into a village, they wanted the informal settlers to inform as well.

"When the place was filled with chemicals, people used to be afraid of this area especially at night. In fact, even I would not pass through it as much as I can avoid it," he said.

**For the better**

In 2006, things turned out for the better when the subdivision "homeowners' association" volunteered the land to GK. The group then provided the construction materials and the 914-million project carried out to resettle residents to build their own homes.

Two classrooms were also designated where children of squatter families from 3 to 6 years old are encouraged to take the first step to value the importance of education.

The kids have to venture to area close located in the middle of the village. They are now late for class, too.

**Hardly any absences**

"We see their enthusiasm. There are hardly any absences in class. Everyone knows everybody else, so classmates are responsible," said teacher Nida Leonardo. "If one student fails to attend class, we try to find out and visit the child's house within the community."

Nida counts the days down to the start of school in June after writing her last batch of prospective grantees for March. More than 20 kids graduated from kindergarten who are part of the FedEx Idol Project, while the top students are chosen as scholastics or private schools.

"It was their 'morning up' day in Iriho," said Leonardo. "The best students of the class get scholarships and get a shot at

CONTINUED A2



THE FORMER dumpsite inside Multinational Village is now a thriving community made of 300 families living in brightly-colored houses.

# Speed limits on 2 other QC roads eyed

By Julie M. Aurelio

SOON, motorists plying two other major roads in Quezon City will be driving at slower limits to like the one now imposed on Commonwealth Avenue.

The Quezon City government is mulling the possibility of imposing speed limits on the other two thoroughfares in a bid to instill discipline on drivers using these roads.

Mayor Herbert Bautista said up next will be Mindanao Avenue and Elliptical Road as he has instructed the Department of Public Order and Safety to study the feasibility of imposing speed limits.

The result of the study will be submitted as recommendations to the Metro Manila Development Authority.

For Mindanao Avenue, Bautista said he wants to impose the same 60 kilometer speed limit being enforced along Commonwealth Avenue.

The city mayor is thinking of imposing a lower speed limit for Elliptical Road.

"This move to impose speed limits on the two other major roads are part of efforts to ensure both the commuters and pedestrians' safety," Bautista said.

He explained that road accidents usually result from motorists' overspeeding and reckless driving.

The city government is also forming a traffic management plan which will include the continuous conduct of seminars for drivers of public utility vehicles plying major thoroughfares in Quezon City.

Meanwhile, Bautista said he will review and study the recommendation for tollings and scrapping of bypass as well as to implementing rules and regulations.

He emphasized that he wants to discontinue whether driving under the influence of liquor deserve sanctions especially with the frequency of vehicular mishaps.

Bautista has tasked the QPOS and the Quezon City Police District to submit statistics on the causes of traffic accidents in Quezon City.

# Bong, Lani renew vows in 'powerhouse' wedding rites

By Marinel R. Cruz

A "POWERHOUSE" wedding" was how Bayan Muna Rep. Teddy Casiño described the renewal of marriage vows of Gov. Ronnie "Bong" Revilla" and Cavite Rep. Lani Mercado yesterday afternoon in Imus City.

"I hope they serve as an inspiration to us all. They're a great couple both in politics and to show for," said Casiño, who tied the knot with Cavite governor Juanito Remulla in 2002. "I'm feeling nostalgic. I'm now thinking of when to do on my 20th anniversary, but this is hard to beat. This is a powerhouse wedding."

Former president Joseph Estrada led the 25 principal sponsors in yesterday's ceremony at the Church of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Villamor Airbase in Pasay City. Former presidents Fidel Ramos and Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, now a congressman, were conspicuously absent.

The couple first wed in a non-sectarian ceremony at the Notre Luna Municipal in Glendale, California in the United States in 1986. Mercado, then 16, was already pregnant with their first child. 14 years later, they had their Catholic wedding in Revilla's hometown Bacoor, Cavite.

Among the principal sponsors who joined the ceremonial rounds, which began at 3 p.m., were former Las Piñas Rep. Cynthia Villar, former Senate president Ernesto Maceda, former House Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr., former Pampanga Rep. Georgina de Venecia, Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim, Petron chair and CEO Ramon Ang and wife Sonsoles, PLDT chair Manuel V. Pangilinan, and Nacionalista Unid Coop. of the Philippines president and CEO Henry Sy Jr.

Also present were top executives of Revilla's home network GMA 7, chair and CEO Felipe L. Gozon, former president and CEO Menardo Jimenez, president and COO Jimmy Duavit, and veteran vice president for news and current TV affairs Luchi Cruz-Valdes, as well as Regal Entertainment matriarch Lily Monteverde, Viva Entertainment boss Vic del Rosario, TV host-German Moreno and Mercado's talent manager Lolit Solis. Film producer-director Armida Siguion-Reyna was represented by son, Carlitos.

"I will not change a bit from the first thing you loved and married. I'll always be lovable you," Revilla said in his wedding vow.

GOV. Bong Revilla and Rep. Lani Mercado at their silver wedding anniversary at Shrine of Saint Therese of Child Jesus Church at Newport City in Pasay City.

"I expect no more fronts in the pro-Imus-what department," Mercado told her husband, who had been romantically linked to a number of actresses and beauty queens in the past. "I pray for more romances and more romantic moments with you."

Secondary sponsors were Phillip Salvador and Lorna Tolentino (couple), Manny and Jinkee Pacquiao (wife), Gen. Jaggy Espina and wife Percy Lapeña (couple), Jose Gabriel Ramirez (ring bearer) and Alexa Daniela Ardiente (flower girl).

The couple's sons Jolo and Jiko were best men and daughter Irish del Rosario was the matron of honor.

Bishop Luis Antonio Tagle co-celebrated the Mass with Fr. Fe Sharon Bruno and Fr. Romeo Intal. Mark Dasmariñas and Michel Aning Go sang at the Mass, which ended around 5 p.m. The reception was held at the Harbour Town of the Solaire Philippine Plaza.

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

# Cops track down Taguig garage for stolen vehicles

By Penelope P. Endaya

A WAREHOUSE that served as a garage of carnapped vehicles was raided down yesterday in Taguig City after one of the stolen trucks kept throw hard a tracking device that gave away the locations to the police.

A 10-wheeler truck was found in Aniad Hired Recycling Corp. on Daang Hari-Sta. Rosa Tagaytay Road in Barangay Tipas, Taguig City, along with three other trucks, a van, a backhoe, a tractor engine and 100 cement bags.

Samuel Dimalibot, 46, of Barangay San Dionisio, Paranaque City, reported that his truck was robbed by four armed men early Thursday morning along Subic, Calauan, Laguna.

By then informed the police of the whereabouts of its 10-wheeler delivery truck based on the global positioning system (GPS) tracker that allowed Calamba Police District to secure a search warrant from Judge Amor Reyes of Manila Regional Trial Court Branch 22.

"The suspects must have thrown the device hoping to be safe because there are a lot of warehouses here. If you see the area, it won't appear suspicious if trucks come in and out," said Taguig City Police Chief Tomas Apolinario.

The Calamba, Taguig and Southern Police District operatives as well as the Philippine National Police Highway Patrol Group and Criminal Investigation and Detection Group conducted the joint operation 7:30 p.m. Friday and cordoned off the area until Saturday morning.

Spokesman said that the warehouse owner and suspect's identification is still being verified as of press time. The trucks and other evidence have been moved to Camp to validate vehicle registration is ongoing.

## Downpour floods only some areas

By Penelope P. Endaya

THE FLOODWATCH monitoring area of Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) reported slight floods lasting some hours due to yesterday's downpour caused by the southwest monsoon and rebuttern Metro Manila.

The floods recorded in some streets in the northern part of Metro Manila were caused by the rain dumped on southern parts did not result to floods, according to MMDA.

Lacson and Tapting Streets and Lower Road area in Malabon City became passable to light vehicles after the knee-deep level or 39 inches of floodwater subsided on 11 a.m.

The road near R. Papa Avenue of LRT in Manila and the Gil Puyat Avenue flood in Makati also got greater level or 4 inches of rainfall but the subsided by over 9 p.m.

Mandaluyong Street in Valenzuela City and Antonio Road, Lapu-Lapu Street, northbound lane of A. de Jesus Street and the LRT Mamonsanto in Caloocan City subsided part or level or 6 inches of floodwater but immediately subsided before noon.

### Flood-prone areas

The MMDA has identified eight flood-prone areas across Metro Manila, which include Sampaloc and Road Avenue corner R. Papa in Manila; Makati Diversion Channel along South Superhighway and Buendia in Makati City; Maybelle Circle, Boni Avenue, Poinsettia Street, Edsa-Kamuning Street, Aurora Blvd. and Shaw Boulevard, all in Mandaluyong City; Barangay Salapan and Bagong Ilog in San Juan City; and Barangay Bambang, Tumana ng Lupa, Tumana and Tapia in Quezon City.

SUMMER IS OVER Two boys gather canteens on a pedicar as they enjoy the sudden downpour in San Juan City Saturday. The rains are caused by the southwest monsoon. ALVIN KASIBUNG

## Slay case witness may lose protection, security

By Julie M. Aurelio

DOJ, in the performance of witness Albert Mendiola to leave the safehouse, the Witness Protection Security and Benefit Program has asked a Quezon City court to relieve it of responsibilities on his security.

In a two-page manifestation and motion, the WPSBP sought a court order noting that Mendiola, one of the accused in the Ampatuan Evangelista slay case, is no longer under its physical and protective custody.

The pleading was signed by Atty. Martin Sedar, acting program director of the WPSBP an attached agency of the Department of Justice.

### Status unchanged

Mendiola's status as a protected witness under the program remains unchanged.

However, Judge Lucia Dal Dia of the Quezon City Regional Trial Court Branch 217 has yet to formally drop him from the charge sheet and admit him to a state witness.

He is supposed to testify against brothers Reger and Raymond Dominguez, whom he identified as the alleged masterminds behind the abduction and killing of Evangelista, a rice dealer, early May, 2006.

### Slipped away

On Tuesday, Mendiola allegedly slipped away from his bodyguards on Tuesday and, refusing not to stay at a safehouse, chose to stay at the Bahay ng Pagkakaisa Inc. where he was once detained.

In its motion, the WPSBP said Mendiola, despite having been placed under the program's protective custody, refused to remain at a designated safehouse.

The WPSBP added that the accused-witness "persistently insisted that he be transferred to the custody of the Bahayan Pagkakaisa Inc." and that Mendiola availed his benefit for temporary shelter.

## *Sketch of suspect in dentists' rob-rape out*

By Jeannette I. Andrade and Marvilou Cruzeng

MANILA policemen are looking at the possibility that the suspect behind Thursday's robbery at a dental clinic, where one of the two female dentists was raped, had been responsible for at least three similar incidents in Quezon City.

The Manila Police District Women's and Children's Protection Desk (WPD-WCPD) released yesterday an artist's sketch of the robber-rapist who posed as a patient and pretext Thursday afternoon on the dentists at a dental clinic in Pres. Manila, stealing away more than P200,000 cash and belongings.

MPD-WCPD head Chief Insp. Anita Arandia told the Inquirer that immediately after the crime was reported, she was informed by Quezon City law enforcers that two to three similar incidents had occurred in the locality.

"They have to check the records of the previous cases but they told me that the suspect in the other incidents also robbed and raped the female victims, who are also workers in a dental clinic," Arandia pointed out.

She added that in the previous cases, the suspect had also availed of dental services before robbing and raping the victims.

SKETCH of the robber-rapist released on Saturday by police.

"We have to watch the information and see if the other victims could identify the suspect through the artist's sketch," he said.

She theorized that the suspect could have simply transferred his activities from Quezon City to Manila to escape detection and arrest.

The suspect was described to be between 30 and 35 years old, about five-foot-six tall, of medium build and dark-skinned.

Arandia said the suspect had signaled the guard "Abiii Maliit" on the patient's record sheet and claimed to be a resident of Pres. when he went to the dental clinic on Thursday afternoon.

After he had (or both) subdued the dentists and robbed the two dentists of more than P200,000 worth of cash and belongings before raping one of them inside their clinic.

Police have loaned out to hunt down the suspect.


## TRAFFIC ADVISORY

### May 29 to 30, 2011

341 Araw ng Makati

ROAD CLOSURES:

FROM 12:00 NOON TO FINISH (MAY 29, TO 30, 2011)

1. Ayala Avenue- from Makati Avenue up to Herrera Street. (Both Lanes)
2. Paseo de Roxas- from Sedeno Street to Dela Rosa Street.(Both Lanes)

FROM 12:00 NOON TO 4:00 PM (MAY 30, 2011)

1. Malugay Street – From Pasong Tamo To Ayala Avenue
   -From Ayala Avenue to Gil Puyat Avenue (Both Lanes)
2. Ayala Avenue – From Gil Puyat to Metropolitan Street.
   -From Kamagong to Gil Puyat.
3. Rufino Street – From Valero Street to Dela Rosa Street

1. All passenger Buses (PUB) from EDSA, right to Sen. Gil Puyat toward destination.
2. All passenger Buses (PUB) coming from SLEX, Buendia, Pasay City take Gil Puyat Avenue left EDSA towards destination.

PUJ/LIGHT VEHICLES:

1. From J.P. Rizal, right turn Makati Avenue, right turn Paseo De Roxas, right turn Villar Street, Left turn E.P. Laviste, Left turn V.A. Rufino right turn Ayala Avenue towards destination.
2. From Washington St. right turn Gil Puyat, right turn Ayala Avenue right turn Salcedo, left turn Benavidez toward Esperanza, right turn Makati Avenue, right turn Amaia Ave. right turn Paseo De Roxas, left turn Dela Rosa, right turn Salcedo left turn Ayala Avenue towards destination.

EXPECT HEAVY TRAFFIC, TAKE ALTERNATE ROUTE AND AVOID THE ACTIVITY AREA.

www.makati.gov.ph


## Community thrives from a dumpsite

Turn page A13

quality education."

Sibol, which means growth, is one of the projects made by Bridle GE since 2006. The partnership has provided classrooms, free tuition and free textbooks to eight different GE communities across the country, including the one in Multinational Village, according to Bridle managing director Flavio Jennings.

The other Sibol schools are located in Tupas, Panabingan City Cabio, Panabingan City Bolodoy, Zamboles, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental; Talisay City Cebu; Parol Island, Subic Zambales; and Mabalacat, Pampanga.

Pioneer Sibol top graduate of 2007, Sharlyn Pagaran, 11, is an incoming Grade 5 student in Madre Ilhata Pia Ramos School within the subdivision. She loves Math, she said English was easy, she got a medal for exemplary behavior and she was top 2 of her class last year.

When librarian took the laboratory tests in their private schools, she topped all of them. She likes Science the most and Math next because she would walk to it every day from M. Timothy Street to M. Santos Street.

### Outsider

But it wasn't the subjects that made her shy in the new school 4,000 ok. When she first came in as a Grade 1 student, many of her classmates did not welcome the "outsider."

"Some students from Grade 1 to Grade 5 picked fights on me. They said I don't belong there. Some called me names—negrita daw kasi! daw ako. Super down kasi maging kayumanggi," shared Sharlyn.

Her mother immediately talked to the teachers of the school where her classmates were studied.

"When that happened, I cried for my daughter. I told her to be patient and be strong," said Beatrice.

In time, Sharlyn proved her strong suit. Her academic excellence paved way to be accepted and even won with high regard. Her mom said that Sharlyn now has friends even from the high school department.

"Some of my classmates even try to copy from me," she said.

### New graduates

About 1,000 kindergarten students have "moved up" from the Sibol program. Both graduates and last year's top student Eunice Sotto is one of them.

Eunice, 6, said she wants to become a doctor one day. Beatrice added that she wants to be a nurse to help the sick. "We might even work in the same hospital," the two girls exclaimed laughed.

The graduates of Sibol are also tech-savvy as Eunice posted one day have a small computer room in their school. She said she's even Facebook friends with her classmates. She even requested to take a photo of her Sibol friends to be uploaded in the networking site.

"Sometimes, my classmates and I would ask each other about our homework or anything," added Eunice. Her environment educator Sibol "house call" of their John Cezar Magsalin, Jessan Cesado, Jessie Villano, and Gabriel Fedelino, to be among them.

ELOQUENCE Eunice shows off how well she could write in her name inside the Sibol classroom. She said she's excited to be a first grader this time.

### Unfinished business

With about 200 families, the "Mall 3" GE site has 120 units but about 25 units are still unfinished.

"It is unfortunate that some of the residents across the monument of their old way of life," said Flordeliza.

Magsalin, however, was quick to add that they are still actively engaging the residents to complete the project.

### Other projects

Aside from the Sibol, Bridle's Project Engage ("erlan learning," "enrr") for children 7 to 13 years old and Project Sigs (which means "bright") is targeted to supplement alternative education to teenagers.

GE also provides livelihood, health and nutrition programs to the community.

"We only want one here for them. We are one community here," said Magsalin.

As we celebrate the International Day of United Peacekeepers today, let us remember Filipino policemen and soldiers who have given their lives to keep the peace abroad.
—PNP Chief Paul M. Razon

# GLOBAL Pinoy

Editor Monica Feria

INQUIRER.NET:
ILITS Review (top) (3) primary,
Denise Dela Cruz, Louis, Tomato Pie,
Meat and Blueberry

This section is dedicated to Filipinos overseas toiling on land and at sea, in factories, in construction sites and in the homes of the world to secure a better life for their families. These are their stories.

# Making her mark in int'l charity work

*Cebuana social worker Mingming Evora is a regional leader of Plan International, a global charity for children and poor communities.*

By Monica Feria

On 14th first assignment abroad, Myrna Belmes Evora was greeted by shrub shrubs and obscene phone calls. A social worker for an international charity organization, Myrna had been sent to Indonesia in 1981 to reconnoiter the organization's programs and scan the staff.

She even got a cold reading: the chauffeur-cum-interpreter became her husband, an engineer working in Saudi Arabia at that time, had died. It was one year, of course. Another called (a foreigner like herself) told Myrna, "You do not know what I am, and you are under a contract," she recalled.

But disappointed staff members may have underestimated the young woman from Cebu. Myrna married the pleasant smile and gentle insistence of this Lithuanian native, called Mingming by friends.

Mingming, a product of the University of Southern Philippines who honed her social organizing skills in the slums and hope communities of Cebu, married a man.

Her unassuming phone calls soon lit up after the months. In the months she had a busier staff and new programs in place. Mingming, who also holds a Master's degree in social work from the University of the Philippines in Diliman, ended up managing three years in Bangladesh as a field director for the UK and London-based Plan International, one of the largest charities serving children and depressed communities in the world.

"That was my first real mean-difficult challenge," says Mingming, who went on to posts in Bolivia and Sri Lanka before moving to Bangkok to take up the job of regional director of Plan, supervising multi-million-dollar charity projects for 14 countries. At the time of this interview she was preparing to take up a new post in Bangladesh where the organization planned to set up one of its global virtual schools so as to train social workers and staff in a unique child-centered Community Development (CCCD) approach.

Plan's international social work involves big money. Donors from all over the world enter charities so as to clean their money trail. It goes to helping the poor and not to overstuffed bureaucracies. Plan has been in Asia for decades and with political requirements (sometimes pressure) from host governors regarding certain projects, notes Mingming.

## Filipina strengths

Mingming says many of her sister, she learned while growing up in a poor family in the Philippines. For one, "pakisama (the Filipino code of humanistic responsibility)," she says, to volunteers she went her hard hang like she called women, learned Bahasa, are what they are, and acquainted herself with their social rules in Sri Lanka she came to work in a riot.

But politicians, here or elsewhere, says Mingming, only want to reduce people not free you get generously educate in showing your solidarity to Bolivia, she found their milk and cheese, but unability admitted to her host. Plan friends from she didn't really like their taste. Her favorite is one "pointing out" Quiz for about. If you are just eating, answer or learn Isidora she you (it will come out.)," she says. Area of routine, it has its limits, too.

She also learned early on time bring poor did not necessarily rule out being respected in a community. "My parents were teachers, life were poor, life did not count," she recalled. She and her siblings had to help earn for the pigs in the backyard to earn their school tuition money.

"But I remember, affluent were always visiting our house. We learned to have all sorts of people—the rich and powerful as well as poorer residents," she recalls.

Mingming remembers this when she meets people who seem to discriminate against representatives or employees from poor countries. Like many development workers, Mingming is prone to be non-confrontational. But she says her patience had given her an inner confidence that allows her to stick to her guns.

## Making every cent count

Mingming was in charge of Plan projects in Sri Lanka when a tsunami struck, killing over 30,000 villagers. Plan helped build over 200 new houses.

There were many donors from all over the world who wanted to help, she recalls. A lot of cousins point just big in. At nine points, Mingming introduced the charter many more pledges for homes than there were families above real. Some houses were also being planned in places where there were no water and electricity, and were not far from the customary places of work. Construction was going on at such a hot pace, that most of the bricks used to build houses melted at the first rain.

Mingming put a stop to it. She even canned many naïve donors. "It's my job to tell them the facts, even if it means accepting less money," she says, recognizing the local government or conservation in charge," she says.

Doing to things of other people's demonstrating care for needs. Her Mingming says the embodiment of social work still outweigh the amateurs.

## A humbling experience

Despite cultural differences, the look of poverty is the same everywhere, she says. "You see it in the eyes of poor children in any country." It's an expression that has never failed to touch her heart and those of many people she supervise she would.

"How can I complain about the weather or the food or my work problems when these people are worse off than me?" she muses, adding that some won't a "very humbling experience."

"I can also be frustrating. Some people think some poor people don't seem to want to help themselves," Well, she says, this is why social work needs to be professionalized. There are ways of helping poor people help themselves, she says, adding that people need to be given help with their dignity intact.

Plan International, she says, eschews a rights-based approach to development and is focusing on children. It also keeps and eye on genuine and emotional issues when approving projects.

Work has grown as a problem donor during her experience abroad. She says she hopes the Philippines will be her last post, as she can devote more everything she has learned with communities back home.

Her advice to other Filipino social workers who may find themselves in similar jobs abroad: Be yourself, be sincere, it's your best asset. Plan also, upgrade your professional skills, be sensitive and observe..."

Pursuing a global career has kept Mingming away from her family for long stretches of time. She gives thanks to strong extended family support for helping her weather the tensions of long-distance mothering. She often thanks her children, who have accepted her to an overseas career mom.

## Global career mom

In the beginning, she took her two children with her. But when they were in high school, and after seven changes of schools, the children chose to stay behind. When she was in Sri Lanka in 2004, she had their blessings. "Mo, you go, but stay. If you don't go you will always say, what if... He also don't want to see you anyway!" the fourth her children telling her.

"Communication is important," she advises other overseas moms. Her children also trained her on her place of work can set up webcam.

For mothers, there are pros and cons of working overseas. But "it can be done," she says.

Mingming shares with the performers of her daughter's a wonderful note: "Your voice — I hope that when I become a mom myself, I'll be like you—able to touch my kids the color of the piano but being generous and kind hearted." She will "hope my voice will grow up impossible do label and smile them... Thanks for everything more! love you."

LEARNING WITHOUT FEAR: The Prime Minister Aklan Valgalina had presented Plan Asia Regional Office Director Myrna Evora with a plaque of support for Plan International's "Learn without Fear" campaign, an advocacy to end violence in schools. At left, Evora joins Magdalena women at the Barbaan Child Club.

# Forever single seaman?

By Susan R

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DZIQ 990AM RADYO INQUIRER

# The WORLD

Edita Laverne B. Suico

## Last minutes of Air France jet downed 2 years ago recounted in report

PARIS—The captain of the Air France jet that crashed in the Atlantic two years ago was so stressed during the last minutes of the controls, as the crew struggled to recover from a high-altitude stall, according to an initial chronology of the flight's final moments published on Friday by French investigators.

Based on roughly 1,500 pieces of newly recovered information, including the pilots' final conversations, the report confirmed suspicions that a loss of combined speed readings, probably a result of icing of the plane's airspeed sensors, set off the chain of events that brought down Flight 447 en route from Rio de Janeiro to Paris.

But the investigators said it was too early to say whether pilot error or technical malfunctions had caused the jet's 3,000,000 to plummet 38,000 feet in 3 1/2 minutes, slamming into the ocean surface at a vertical speed of nearly 13,000 feet per minute.

"We are still trying to interpret this information in order to have a better understanding of what happened," said Jean-Paul Troadec, director of the Bureau of Investigation and Analyses or BEA, in France. "They await has just begun."

A more comprehensive report will be issued by the end of July, Troadec said.

All 228 people aboard were killed when the plane went down in mid-2009. Airlines and Air France are facing accusations of inadequately manslaughter. But the cause of the crash had remained a mystery, in a matter he concentrate until the plane's recalled black boxes were recovered in the past month. They yielded troves of information from the plane's computers and from a flight recorder of cockpit conversations.

According to the report, the first indication of trouble appeared three hours and 50 minutes into the flight, and 14 minutes after the captain had gone to the crew rest area for some sleep, a normal procedure for a long flight. Beforehand, he and the two co-pilots discussed the weather and noted they were nearing rough air. Flight attendants were cautioned.

Suddenly, the autopilot and auto-thrust functions of the plane disengaged. A stall warning sounded, twice.

"We've lost the speeds," one co-pilot said, as the plane began to maneuver control of 37,308 feet.

The report said that the co-pilot tried "several times" to call the captain back and that he returned within less than a minute.

The report does not identify the pilots by name. But French news reports identified them shortly after the crash as Capt. Marc Dubois, 58, who had flown nearly 11,000 hours and had extensive experience on Airbus A330 and A340 aircraft; David Robert, 37, a co-pilot with more than 6,500 hours of flight experience; 4,500 of them on A330s; and Pierre-Cedric Bonin, 32, the second co-pilot, who had less than 3,000 hours of experience.

Investigators confirmed separately that Robert was at the controls from the moment the plane ran into trouble.

The plane's flight displays were showing inconsistent speed readings. Faulty airspeed indicators can mislead pilots into flying faster or slower than the plane can handle. In this case, investigators said, the plane alongside lost speed.

The pilot at the controls pulled up the nose of the aircraft. As the plane climbed, it began to unwind, reaching 38,000 feet. A third stall warning sounded, lasting for about a minute.

Two minutes later, with the plane losing momentum and starting to stall left and right, and the captain back at the cockpit, the plane had fallen by about 10,000 feet in one rate pitching upward from the downward more than 40 degrees, although its angle from the horizon "did not exceed 15 degrees."

The crew struggled to regain lift as the plane hurtled through 35,000 feet, its rates still up around 16 degrees from the horizon. According to the report, the engines continued to operate until the end and responded to crew commands.

Two minutes before impact, the co-pilots said they had lost valid indications of airspeed.

Around the same time, the plane, which had veered slightly west of its original flight path, began to turn to the right, eventually reversing course and flying back toward the point at which it had last contact with air traffic controllers. *New York Times-News Service*

# Yemen on brink of civil war as deadly clashes spread

SANAA—Yemen's lifesavers said they wrested a military compound from other troops loyal to President Ali Abdullah Saleh outside the capital Sanaa on Friday as fighting spread, threatening to split the country into civil war.

Yemeni fighter jets broke the sound barrier as they swooped over Sanaa, where battles between Saleh loyalists and the disaffected tribal alliance led by Sadeq al-Ahmar ravaged the streets after a failure of a deal to ease the president out.

Clashes spread northeast of Sanaa on Friday where it then said in addition to sending a military gear to the Saleh region, they were also fighting government troops at various other points outside the capital.

In Sanaa, tens of thousands of people gathered after Friday prayers for what they branded a "Friday of Peaceful Revolution" against Saleh, releasing white doves and carrying the coffins of about 30 people killed in clashes this week.

Tens of thousands turned out for the rally inspired by the Egyptian and Tunisian revolutions, though their numbers had dwindled compared to previous weeks after Democratic Bed Sanaa and the government closed roads around the city to keep out tribes trying to reinforce the Ahmars.

Washington put the anti-sporadic blame on Saleh the city before fighting neared after two. Ahmar's fighters evacuated government ministry buildings they had grabbed this week in retaliation a cease-fire and troops quitting their areas.

"We are now in isolation and there has been a cease-fire between the two sides," Ahmar, close to an Islamist opposition party, told protesters in "Change Square". "But if Ali Abdullah Saleh returns to fighting then we are ready. We are steadfast and resistance." "We wanted it [resolution] to be peaceful but Saleh has now sent his thugs around our. We will not leave them the opportunity to turn it into world war," Ahmar told Reuters.

But in a sign of hostility between the sides, a government source ridiculed Ahmar for his grandiose statements, saying the state had caught him a "small fortune" and urging him and "his people" to turn themselves in to face justice.

Reuters chiefs nearly, the unrest since protests began in January killed around 135 people and let Saleh grab back the initiative, overshadowing the protest movement with the threat of civil war. Its protesters were determined to see him go.

"We are here to restore our wonder for a peaceful revolution.

Yet regret violence on being dragged into civil war," said Yahya Abdullo at the anti-Saleh protest camp, where armed vehicles were deployed to protect those praying.

A few kilometers away government loyalists staged a short rally, waving Yemeni flags and chanting slogans, but have ruled the dominant Peninsula state for nearly 33 years.

Whatever are growing that Yemen, already a safe haven for al-Qaeda and on the verge of financial ruin, could become a failed state that would erode regional security and pose a serious risk to neighboring Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil exporter. *Reuters*

## WORLDBRIEFS

### Wealthy nations pledge aid to new Arab rulers

DEAUVILLE, France—Leaders of the Group of 8 wealthiest industrial nations on Friday pledged to send billions of dollars in new aid to Egypt and Tunisia, hoping to reduce the threat that economic problems could undermine their transitions to democracy in the region. At a series of working sessions that lasted around the early morning hours Friday, representatives of the Group of 8 expressed concern that the democracy movement in the Arab world could be "hijacked" by Islamic radicals if the West did not help stabilize the economies of the two countries that launched off the Arab Spring, according to two European diplomats who were in the international meeting. The impetus for the uprisings sweeping the region in the last of the Berlin Wall, which eventually paved the way for a historic shift toward democracy in Central and Eastern Europe, the group said in a communique that its aim was "to ensure that instability does not undermine the progress of political reform." *New York Times-News Service*

### Serb court says Mladic fit for genocide trial

BELGRADE— Ratko Mladic is fit enough to face genocide charges in The Hague, a Belgrade court ruled on Friday after the Bosnian Serb war-time general's lawyers said he appeared too frail after more than 16 years on the run. The court ran Mladic, arrested on Thursday in a Serbian village, had said Monday to appeal against the ruling by the international tribunal in Hague. The charges to be tried for a massacre in Srebrenica and the siege of Sarajevo during Bosnia's 1992-95 war. European officials hailed the capture of a fallow fugitive belonging for his cousin also with the nickname Mladic as a milestone on Serbia's path towards the European Union and said they expected his extradition within 10 days.

*Reuters*

### Egypt permanently opens Gaza border crossing

RAFAH, Gaza Strip—After four years, Egypt on Saturday permanently opened the Gaza Strip's main gateway to the outside world, bringing long-awaited relief to the territory's Palestinian population and a significant achievement for the new ruling Islamist-dominated group. The reopening of the Rafah border crossing comes as Egyptian blockade of Gaza that has prevented the vast majority of the densely populated area's 1.5 million people from being able to travel abroad. The closure, along with an Israeli blockade of its borders with Gaza, has fueled an economic crisis in the territory. But Saturday's move also raises Israeli fears that militants and arms will be more freely in and out of Gaza.

*AP*

## Russia shifts, offers to help ease Gadhafi out

MOSCOW—President Dmitry A. Medvedev on Friday offered to leverage Russia's influence in Libya to try to persuade Moammar Gadhafi to leave power, in act of high-wire diplomacy that for the first time casts Russia as a central player in events unfolding in North Africa.

Medvedev's announcement, which came a day after a 90-minute telephone call between Medvedev and President Barack Obama in France, represents a pronounced shift in Russia's tone on Libya. Russia's criticism of Nato attacks had become increasingly tough over the past few months, reviving a long-standing critique of US unilateralism that had quieted since Obama took office.

By attacking Russia's prestige in the effort, Medvedev is taking a gamble. If Gadhafi could be persuaded to leave, Russia would win international plaudits but would also bear some responsibility for guaranteeing his safety. If he could not, Medvedev might find it more difficult to keep his distance from the military campaign, which is not popular in Russia.

For for Russia, all these risks may be mitigated by the symbolism of the moment, when it is called on to define a related stand-off on behalf of world powers.

"Russia in the past decade has lost all those ideas about its influence and consequences in the world, and it is very sad for Russian politicians if it does not exist," said Dmitry Orreshkin, an analyst with the Moscow Group, a Moscow-based think tank. "In this case, it seems like it exists. This is a reason to feel strong and proud."

Mikhail V. Margelov, Russia's special envoy to the Middle East and Africa, said he had been ordered to fly to Benghazi, the rebel stronghold, to conduct negotiations with the Libyan opposition. Russia is also considering plans to station a group of Gadhafi government, Medvedev mentioned Qatar and Saudi Arabia as countries that might possibly offer Gadhafi asylum, and said his group of flight allies have proposed a country of sanctuary for his forces, "from a scientific to a simple fisherman like Ahmed down, who has of Misurata in the fingers."

Russia is in a unique position to negotiate, he said, because "Russian soldiers have never fought against African countries and against Muslim countries, against the Muslim people."

Margelov added: "We have preserved our embassy in Tripoli and have preserved contacts with people in Gadhafi's circle. And we are developing our contacts with the Libyan rebels. This is why I can go to Benghazi."

When asked who he negotiating partner was likely to be, Margelov was evasive.

"Can you imagine, if I give you the person's name, and his head" seem to be cut off the next day?" he said. "But yes, we do have people in Gadhafi's camp." *New York Times-News Service*


## Unilever and PACO Catholic School Partners in Caring for the Environment

Innovative Factory Visit of Paco Catholic Students and Teachers to Unilever leading to General Trias Cavite

Unilever employees guide the PACO Catholic School

LEGAZPI CITY (PHILIPPINES) Constantly stressed about pressure of constant pressure to PACO CATHOLIC SCHOOL as the school's organization for learning more. He told of used bamboo plastic wrappers which its high school students collected from their homes and from their family and friends and a food vendors plant owned.

Instead of ending up in the waste stream, the trash collected were shredded and made as an aggregate material in the production of the cement plants.

The project also included of the partnership between Unilever and Paco Catholic School is an mutual social responsibility to care for the environment. The involvement of the students in this partnership marks the value of environment care and protection among the youth and their own families.

**PACO CATHOLIC SCHOOL partners with UNILEVER PHILIPPINES in a CSR Program**

Corporate Social Responsibility is no longer limited to companies and other businesses. PACO CATHOLIC SCHOOL recently partnered with Unilever Philippines in bringing the awareness to environment care and protection through proper solid waste management.

Over a four-month pilot period, high school students from Paco Catholic School gathered tons of plastic flexible plastic wrappers from their own homes and from their family and friends. Each section competed to collect the most number of kilos of plastic candy wrappers. Unilever provided product incentives to the top eating students. At the end of the collection drive, the sections from the graduating class emerged as highest section contributors and were treated by Unilever to a plant tour. The visit completed the 4-hour manufacturing facilities at the Sarabay Industrial Park in General Trias, Cavite City. The students and teachers were also given an Unilever Powerpoint Presentation on the Sarabay Industrial Park as a way of establishing greater camaraderie among the participants.

A total of 100 kilos of trash made up of plastic wrappers of various companies and brands were collected during the pilot period. These wrappers were turned over to Unilever who in turn, shredded it and used the aggregate to produce 100 bundles of wood. These bundles were then donated to Paco Catholic School for use in their campus improvement projects.

The partnership between Unilever and Paco Catholic School will continue in the coming school year with private participation of both the elementary and high school levels.

From plastic wrappers to cement products, this was the theme of the partnership between Unilever and Paco Catholic School. It is a laudable project to involve schools children in waste segregation as a habit that inspires responsible waste management.

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Sunday BIZ

# Savor Ifugao life for P1,200

By Vincent Cabreza and BV Espiritu
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BANAUE, IFUGAO—Homestay programs and community hostels have been marketed as the best ways for tourists to embrace the life of indigenous peoples in the Cordillera.

But Abot Ordillo of Barangay Cambulo here has taken that tourism model a bit further. For P500 to P1,200, he allows tourists to live with an Ifugao family, labor for rushes and help plant Ifugao rice terraces. He grounds the rice himself so the visitors can share a meal with their hosts.

Adding flavor to this specialized immersion program is Ordillo's promise to introduce his visitors to the mummified skeletons of his ancestors, Inap-angan Linmangyo.

The program was introduced by an advocacy group, which sought institutional support to keep the rice terraces thriving, after these were enshrined in the List of World Heritage Sites by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco).

The first the Ifugao Terraces Management Office, which has been developing tourist projects such as posters and potable water systems for Ifugao's poor, also toured potential dances and supporters through the terraces, and encouraged them to plant an arnibi tree.

**TOURISM IMMERSION.** Abot Ordillo has been operating a different kind of homestay program in Banaue, Ifugao, because for a fee, his visitors get to live with them, cook meals with them, and plant and ground rice with them. They also meet Ordillo's ancestor, the mummified remains of Inap-angan Linmangyo, which has been preserved inside the home.

Ordillo's family says that allowing tourists live the Ifugao life, bathe in the rivers, and cook their own meals would give them better insights as to why young Ifugaos are fighting to keep modern lifestyles from killing their traditions.

The family began renting out the third Ifugao hut of the late Linmangyo in 2009, and has served 15 tourists since.

It's the hut that naturally draws the tourists' interest: its thatch roof is adorned with the skulls of carabao, cattle and wild boar, which express the rich and high social status of its dwellers centuries ago. The animals were sacrificed to appease the ancestral spirits, each time a pair, of the hut is constructed or put together.

For P200 a day, 10 people can stay inside the hut.

MYRON MY

**ENTREPRENEUR.** Rose Quizon-Dacasa's decision to entertain her wish to rename of the Bulacan provincial jail alarmed friends and drew mockery from critics.

# Australia discovers hats made by 'weaving inmates of Bulacan'

By Carmela Reyes-Buisngan
Inquirer Central Luzon

BALIUAG, BULACAN—Australian scientists have discovered the Baliuag hats produced by the "lifesaving inmates of Bulacan," providing them the international attention valuable the town's last Bastad hat maker, Rosario "Rose" Quizon-Dacasa, hopes they'll be getting.

Dacasa decided last year to entrust her skills to inmates of the Bulacan provincial jail in Malolos City alarming friends and drawing mockery from her critics.

The 57-year-old Dacasa had learned the craft from the original bastad weavers of the 1940s, Joaquin and Inter Villoseo, but the hat making industry had soured so she decided in 2010 to pass on her skills to 10 inmates.

"If Cebu has dancing inmates (referring to the Sinulog sinsakwels), I wanted to see the Bastad hat weaving inmates of Bulacan," she says.

Last month, 30 hats produced by the inmates were shipped to an Australian buyer for "top dollar" profits. Dacasa says the Australian buyer was surprised to learn that the hats were produced by prisoners. She says

# Healthy back bags, anyone?

THE BUZZ Patented inserts dispersed over a bag "healthy" equally distributes those eight of the bag across bag touch points, contouring it to the natural curve of the spine.

By Doreen Cora

IT DOESN'T really matter what women use but for choosing a particular bag. Most ladies would narrow over designer bags, where simply must something that suits their every mood and everyday clothes.

The options are varied and endless with new collections coming up in both the local and international markets regularly.

But for retail and merchandising company Stores Group, aside from form and function, also, a bag should be comfortable and "healthy" to the spine and should improve the body's posture.

To achieve this novel, the company recently unveiled its revolutionary Healthy Back Bag which it promises to be "ergonomic" with all the trappings of a comfortable, versatile and secure bag.

"The bag combines style, functionality and 'healthy' for all ages and lifestyles," Healthy Back Bag is an exterior new product that is not only stylish but also beneficial for the back," says Nancy Tuason, Prince's director of global business development for Healthy Back Bag, before members of the press who attended the Launch in Mandaluyong.

Developed in partnership with chiropractors and doctors, the bag's patented inserting shape and rear-away "buckling" equally distributes the weight of the bag on eight touch points, contouring it to the natural curve of the spine.

HANCT It an ilumination when ways to carry the Healthy Back Bag.

BRAND and Co Guild

### Stylish and functional

For a relatively new product, the Healthy Back Bag is off to a strong "extremely well" on market, says Tuason. The primary target buyers are 30-40 year old women who are become pinstriper stylish and functional bags." A secondary market is the 20-30 year old women.

She also notes how the company goes about developing bags that address the needs of the market and how careful research is being done to come up with new ideas. "There's a science to the development of bags," she says.

## Privileges the wealthy can get with one card

TODAY, EVERY wise investor knows the importance of being on top of everything to ensure that he or she remains on the right track in achieving his or her financial goals.

Citigold, Citibank's wealth management service in the Philippines, understands the unique needs of high net worth individuals that are driven to succeed while enjoying the best that life has to offer. Citigold recently unveiled a range of enhanced services that ensure the overall well-being of its customers, anytime and anywhere.

"Citigold is one of the most successful brands of Citi in Asia Pacific, where we are widely acknowledged as the foremost consumer oil dealer by the affluent market," relates Aurelio Lim, corporate affairs director of Citibank Philippines.

"Here in the Philippines, we are proud to say that Citigold is the pioneer as well as the leader in wealth management services. We attribute our success to our in-depth knowledge and expertise not only in financial management but also in anticipating and serving every need of our clients, however unique they are. Wherever our clients are, we ensure that we're there to provide them all their services only a team of global financial institution can," adds Lim.

As one of its clients travel the world for business and leisure, Citigold has committed itself to follow them everywhere and provide services tailored to their lifestyle. Whether they're traveling with their family or going out of the country for business, Citigold offers privileges that elevate still find useful and comforting wherever they take that next flight.

For instance, Citigold clients get redelivery service at the MEDICUS Lounge in the Nala Terminal 1. "No matter how early or late into your flight is, you get 24/7 access to the lounge and you can even book any one of the two meeting rooms available for business or personal matters," explains Leila Abat-Jo Tuason, vice president for Retail Bank Marketing.

Citigold clients can enjoy all the amenities available in the lounge, such as the free Wi-Fi access.

## *Jewelry designer finds her center in Yoga*

TOUCH MUSCLES, connective nerves and a disturbed mind in the result of an overworked body. With erratic schedules and long work hours, it's not surprising to see individuals who are on the lookout for alternative ways to stay fit and healthy. One viable aspect of this is the growing number of spas, health clubs, gyms and Yoga studios around the metropolis.

Once thought to be an age old practice for octogenarians, yoga has since evolved into a contemporary approach to "total mind and body wellness," for Filipinos continue to explore the different avenues toward fitness and health, new Yogini Jennifer Ivess for Yoga practitioners) has rolled out the sticky mat with the intention of helping others attain balance, and in the process, discovered a shocking business.

Joy Cervera first discovered Bikram Yoga while in the United States, where she was serving a career in jewelry design. As any one who has lived overseas knows, life abroad can be stressful so Joy practiced Bikram Yoga as an outlet to meditate, release stress and stay fit. The results, she says, were astounding.

"I saw a difference in my life," she recalls. Changes, she says, in both body and mind. Bikram Yoga, she knows as her yoga, consists of 26 postures and two breathing exercises done during a 90-minute session. Unlike others forms of yoga, Bikram Yoga is conducted in a heated room with a temperature of 38 degrees Celsius. Bikram Yoga, which was founded by Calcutta born Indian Yogini Bikram Choudhury helps detoxify both the body and the mind. Each posture is designed to systematically work a specific muscle, ligament and joint in the body.

Yoga have also experienced a state of balance between mind and body resulting in a life of good health and joyful tranquility. The gruelling postures apply the technique of compressing the internal organs using the external spot effect...resulting blood to stop flowing from one organ/part area and once released, allowing the flow of deoxygenated blood to the organ, regenerating it in the process.

The heated room works to warm the body enabling it to not only become flexible and limber, but also reducing the chances of an injury. When one serves, toxins are eliminated from the body. The silhouette adds fast consolidation and an icy cool environment. Bikram Yoga, she says, became a little less stressful, a little healthier and happier.

Inspired by these results, she decided to share her newfound passion and became a certified Bikram Yoga instructor. After studying in Northern and Southern California, she went home to start Bikram Yoga Eastwood.

To kickstart the business, Joy remembers inviting her friends to try out her classes. She didn't have the budget to spend on ad-vertisements and so she relied on word of mouth to help promote her studio. Having an online presence also gave the business an added boost in creating awareness about Bikram Yoga. Joy gives credit to SMEStreet.ph for creating her online newsletter/magazine/journal, and helping her get started online.

SMEStreet.ph (www.smestreet.ph) is a joint venture company of Filipino-Canadian family, the Limcaoco's, Sandi Sandi the SMEs, and the World Bank's International Finance Corp. (IFC) and is in the business of providing Filipino SMEs with innovative business solutions, products and services to help enable entrepreneurs to better manage and grow their business.

With her website continuously attracting web traffic, more and more Filipinos are now turning to Bikram Yoga as a way to breathe. As Joy says, "Bikram Yoga will heal. It really works. For P1,200 a month (unlimited classes), you take care of your health. It is just like meditation, but instead of taking it, you take it literally."

Joy even shares success stories of individuals plagued with physical illnesses who have since experienced a change in health, thanks to Bikram Yoga. One of which is a woman who suffered wheelchair bound people who never able to walk again. Such is the potential of Bikram Yoga in helping individuals discover the journey to physical and mental wellness.

"There is nothing more rewarding than having a business where people tell you how it has changed their life," Joy beams.

Bikram Yoga Eastwood is at Unit One Orchard Road Condominium, Eastwood City, Libis, Quezon City. Aside from Bikram Yoga classes, the studio also offers massage and spa services. The above massage services are also in the offing. For details, contact (632) 912 1222 or email at info@

## Savor

## Attracting only the right kind of tourists

PHOTOS BY ERIC

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Entrepreneurship is a promise of quality and freshness for Ifugao. "It's a privilege to live in a society that is for the development of its up and coming brand, one which is truly unique, reaching the foundation between fashion, form and functionality, fresh stylish and selling a logical, sustainable benefit story."

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The Heritage Bank Bags is endorsed by the Filipino Group of Companies at all Travel Club stores nationwide.

# Changes in Baguio's night market

By Vincent Cabreza
Inquirer Northern Luzon

**The city gov't needs to increase tourist traffic to the park to guarantee profits**

BAGUIO CITY—Rock music has been blasting nightly out of Session Road's Abanao Road, where old Avida have relocated most of the city's entertainment.

Real estate selling as apartments of former bars disappeared from Harrison Road and the back alleys of Session Road, where their presence were permeated by city officials to stop their operations.

Some 7 p.m., shop shop (sand clothes) vendors start to line up on the side streets behind the Baguio Peninsula Hotel and the stores fronting Session Park's Melvin Jones promotional.

They are the new arrivals—moved in the Abanao Road, which the city council decided to convert into the city's first organized night market for tourists on May 23.

City officials opened up the night bazaar, holding sessions Del Rojas around the main road, and marshaled down and lugged the 400 peddlers.

Since April 28, rock bands have been performing for the night market. Sponsored for the Holy Week by a food and beverage company, the night market on Harrison Road is Oriental Dragons, Cityboard band, "Sensitive Turnay" and homegrown bands "Stereopol Cops" and the "Odeliens."

It wasn't the first time Baguio had considered of a move because that repeals the rock and drawing power of Hong Kong's Temple Street night market or England's Portobello Road.

The city government had ordered all nightly street displays of sand clothes and other items, most of them imported from Hong Kong, where it has become a fad in the tourist spots.

Baguio's first brand moves in the area of Baguio Flower Festival's Session Road in Burnham, which removes the road into a working area between 10:00 with removed were the cafe and dining area.

But this time the first time the city government brought the services of the Department of Tourism and the idea is consensus.

The night market was launched last November at a news conference last week by Pantaleon Molintas, DOT Cordillera director, and by lawyer Carlos Cardino, city administrator.

Molintas says the project aims to the same market ordinances tourism lover for Baguio's shop, shop.

"They all come up to shop for shop. We have exhibitions who shop for items they have not for their stores," she says.

From the city government standpoint, however, the project of Session Baguio's road revisits illegal peddlers, Cardino says.

The city's Public Order and Safety Division (PSDO) has been monitoring clearing operations along the city streets to rid them of illegal vendors.

Since 2008, the city government has been pressured to improve a tax ordinance that describes as to, prohibit all forms of peddling, as peddlers of wooden door mats, pens are licensed.

The law was passed in a Jan. 17, 2008 resolution of the Baguio Market Flea Cooperative Multipurpose (Bamapuco), a vendor group, which sought to show gun, ensure the protection to "the Code," since 2008. It does allows the issuance of peddlers and requires them to pay an annual tax of P1,000, allows for the relocation of vendors in the city market and requires them to pay a monthly tax, commonly known as "rentahan" based on the amount of produce they bring into the city market."

The law which the ban ends allows governments to collect from users vendors "effectively implies that the area of vending is and of is additional illegal, but is regulated activity," and gives the vendors "the impression that they are legally allowed to sell even in areas where they should not really," said the Bamapuco spokesman.

The night market outlasts 900 meter from a peddler displays his or her wares at the Abanao Road, which should encourage more vendors to hold business there instead of the main streets, Cardino says.

The not all street peddlers have been convinced to move.

A intervention setting regulations say the city government will work to increase tourist traffic to the park to guarantee more profits.

"We will all of our partners [in more consent] before 9 p.m., but we have [peddlers at the Abanao Road] allow go home with zero sales," several says.

A market leaders had suggested that the night market should remain to the Baguio public market, which closes at 9 p.m., to draw more consumers and to maximize the coverage of facility which is slowly undergoing rehabilitation.

# Tyler joins Golden ABC Inc. brand portfolio

GOLDEN ABC Inc., the company that owns such major fashion brands as Penshoppe, Giordano, Bench, Tuffle and Topshop, completes its impressive brand portfolio as Tyler, the multinational trendy fashion brand, joins the roster.

"Tyler is one of the most prevalent fashion brands in the Philippines. Highly stylish and sophisticated, Tyler will reinforce our already growing portfolio as we move every closer to our vision, which is to be the most valuable and admired brand company," says Golden ABC Inc. chair and CEO Bernie Liu. He adds that he and Kumar and Tamara Pareja, president of Republic Inc. unions and founder of Tyler, "share the same values and vision for the brand" and that they are "confident that Tyler will continue to grow and reach new heights under this new ownership."

Over the last decade, Tyler has earned a fly reputation of the local fashion landscape. It established the trend-setting brand with its flagship store in the Fashion Hall of Power Plaza, which launched upon Tyler the premiere Penshoppe Fashion Show and has served consecutively years, culminating in two dates, one in the Mall of Asia Arena last year.

Golden ABC Inc. has come a long way since its founding over two decades ago. What I originally thought of as a simple T-shirt business has now transformed into a full-blown fashion house, which can hold its own with any other iconic global brands," says Liu.

With more than 300 stores across the country, Golden ABC Inc. is widely perceived as a pioneer in the Philippine fashion retail scene. It leverages the latest fashion innovations to grow all areas of its business, from operations and sales to design and merchandising. Regarded as a trendsetter in the field, Golden ABC Inc. is constantly inspired by both consumers and the intense to be one of the country's most successful fashion retail houses in children.

Currently celebrating 21 years of retail success, Golden ABC Inc. remains committed to its vision of "Fashion for Everybody." Penshoppe, Giordano, Bench, Tuffle and Topshop are home to a world of inspiration by stylish celebrities and the latest Philippine Fashion Week. Moreover, customers must keep on tuned to see Golden ABC Inc.'s growing customer base also in the pipeline.

For more information, visit www.goldenabc.com.ph or e-mail inquiry@goldenabc.com.



# Ifugao life . . .

**Globe, Smart to achieve ISO certification in the Philippines, announces MET 10 status**

**DISASTER roll up to P324 per box.**

# Australia discovers hats . . .

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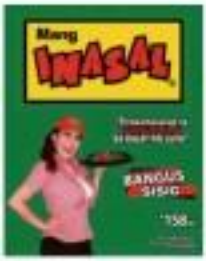


Great view (and coffee) at Sinagtala, Bataan

# Attracting only the right kind of tourists

INSRACO EMPOWERS INDOPHIL TEXTILE MILLS THROUGH PREFERRED CUSTOMER PRICING OPTIONS

Text and photos by Amabel Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

SECLUDED ALONE: The paved as well as dirt roads in Barangay Tala, Orani, Bataan, the vicinity behind the heavily impenetrable greens in the foothills and slopes of Mt. Natib. And then, 300 meters above sea level, with a bracing view of Manila Bay, you come upon an oasis: the Sinagtala Pool, Resort & Retreat Park.

There is a shaped (for seed, drop and resawed of vines), a clubhouse, an attractive pool with waters that seemingly cascade down the mountainside; native-style picnic huts, a chewkwood treehouse; an organic farm planted to assorted crops and tropical fruits; adventure trails, and other features.

"We are surrounded by functioning trees, plants, flowered areas and their vegetation. It is cool even during summer.

Sinagtala is owned by Tala Properties, Inc., headed by Felix C. Reyson, recently named chair of the Bataan Conversion Development Authority by President Aquino; architect-environmentalist Bruce E. Lloyd, and eleven other investors.

The vision of the founders, aside from the usual refuge from urban woes, includes physical and spiritual renewal, creativity, and productivity. The components are faith, nature-based tourism, and livelihood. In line with this vision, the original architect from Batangas who introduced their coffee trees, were not enticed but given employment opportunities.

A master plan calls for more amenities, including additional guest rooms and a ripline. The resort also has five horses for riding around the adventure trails, which lead to a free-flowing lagoon and river.

Sinagtala is ideal for retreats, families (the kids will like the swimming pool and maybe the horses, if properly supervised), seminar-workshop participants and even honeymooners. But if you are a couple, you have to "reasonably mature" (my phrase, not theirs).

Alcoholic beverages are not served here, and there is no videoke. As you current sing "My Way" in Sinagtala, because

ATTRACTIONS

In February of 2011, a leisure/automotive brand luxury took local flow was to the Philippines of their latest offering: world-wide pioneer test. Prior to the concert, the event's organizers took the Debonair out on a trip around Metro Manila for some food, drinks, and relaxing fun. Soon the band was taken aback upon seeing a familiar Shakey's pizza parlor they thought only existed in the California capital they grew up in. To find another store so far from home was too much to pass up.

Wasted by the discovery, the entourage parked over, put some tables together for a mission-mad before the big night.

Shakey's Pizza is one of the most beloved restaurant chains in the country. "Fun, Family, Pizza" is its basic premise, according to Vic Gregorio, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of International Family Food Services Inc. (IFFS), owner and operator of the brand. The pizza chain was introduced to the Philippines in 1973, broke off from the U.S. parent company in 1999, and with Gregorio's return from Dubai and under his leadership, has posted double-digit growth since 2004, with more than one dozen stores opened nationwide. With overall store service, from market survey and leveraging information & communications technology, it has become and remains to be the largest Shakey's restaurant operation in the world.

**Raised to Perfection**

"Shakey's is an experience" says the EVP, who started working for the restaurant in 1987. From patronizing dishes as kitchen staff to one of the most renowned names in the restaurant business, Gregorio obviously knows his brand inside out, as well as its patrons. This vital advantage is the key principle Shakey's Pizza employs to achieve success. "That's what we call Re-Wow Culture; consistently exceeding expectations. I get to know first, stuff you really want, what makes you tick, what makes you happy, what will make you come back. And I get to do a lot of that, so you'll just go, 'wow!'"

This winning formula is evident in the hearts of every Shakey's staff, from the trainees to its top executives. There are special unique characteristics to his approach—even using the term "customer" is erroneous.

"We don't just call them customers. We call them guests," says Gregorio, pointing to the need to make them feel welcome and cared for. Building relationships with them that endure for as long after they've left the restaurant.

**Tomorrow's Pizza, Today**

For this Shakey's turned to PLDT ICT Solutions. A firm believer in the growing capabilities of the Internet, Vic Gregorio continuously places trust in the information giant, whom he has long considered a major technology and communications partner. IFFS and PLDT recently entered as a contract signing that provided the former upgraded solutions for their expanding business. Beyond voice telephony, Shakey's is patched in with PLDT IP-VPN and i-Gate data services to interface with and manage its pizza delivery network of over a hundred stores, two Wi-Fi stellar presences, loyalty programs and soon to come, its own web-based solutions. PLDT Shops Work Unplugged (PWUP) gives diners to avail-use a variety of payment options. Other food and wine-less services back up Shakey's operations, as new applications are conceived by Mr. Gregorio and the rest of the IFFS family. "We use technology in every way possible to meet our dream of 'wowing' the guests," he says.

The Shakey's team is a young, passionate organization, at the same time belonging to a rich tradition dating back to the mid-20th century. As a great dining experience for past generations, as well it endure in the future, innovatively adapting to the changing times while looking true to consistently rewarded experiences. Fun, family pizza will be around for years to come, for the Philippines and perhaps beyond.

International Family Food Services (Shakey's) EVP and COO Vic Gregorio

Shakey's EVP and Operations Support Director Jonathan Ang and Vice President & Quality Management Josette Lanjac; PLDT Relationship Manager Dino M. Medrano; International Family Food Services Shakey's Inc. Marketing Manager Rachel Guevara; PLDT Corporate Specialists Aurora Magat and Ray Mercenet; PLDT Head of Corporate Operations Support Gene M. Calderon; PLDT Senior Manager and Head of Corporate Relationship Management Dick Perez; Senior I-P PLDT VP and Corporate Relationship Management Head Ace Ingalterra; PLDT VP and Head of Corporate Business Group Jose Hernandez; International Family Food Services Shakey's Inc. EVP and COO Vic Gregorio and IT Manager Wally Pinpinella

Shakey's staff are trained to "wow" their guests: to consistently exceed their expectations

Sunday LIFESTYLE

IN THIS ISSUE
■ **Relationship:** She wasn't 'just a dog' /E1
■ **Travel:** Pangasinan's secret getaway—yes, there's more than one /E1

# Surprise–people don't want to be nosey about P-Noy's love life

How can media have a report on the presidential love life if the President doesn't have the elbow room to develop one in the first place?...Our informal poll yields interesting opinions

THE COMMISSION on Audit released its finding that in a span of 10 years, the National Food Authority has lost more than P100 billion from huge rice imports and the policy of buying high, selling low and stuffing long

Did a lot of people take note of any of these and other developments in President Aquino's administration, including the release to a corrupted Animal Heroes? Not. Most likely, not as many as those who read—and remembered—that Aquino had a beautiful date at the Bindog reunion concert, and who, the day after, learned who the date was.

There's nothing unique to cold about people's curiosity about the love life of the country's first bachelor President, who is 51 years old. Romance is the best escape, yours or somebody else's. Who isn't a sucker for a great love story? We all stopped to watch the William-Kate wedding, didn't we?

However, Aquino doesn't relish the fishbowl existence, especially when it comes to his love life. (In fact, who in his/her right mind does?) That's his oft-repeated assertion by now, which many people accept and respect, and still many don't quite understand. (If you can't take the heat, get out of the kitchen, they say, or something to that effect.)

It is truly tragic if the message getting across to the people is about Aquino's love life, not what his administration is doing.

At 53, president or not, Aquino is not in his single ways and mama...he loves listening to his music collection, he loves driving out, he loves long drives, his predecessors must have had grander, if not more sonorous, dreams and wages, so if the people and media can cheat-notice such as they pursued those, why not give Aquino the same elbow room he/his private time? After all, to begin with, he doesn't have private time in the true sense of the word.

In fact, we believe, what Aquino feels strongly about is not only his loss of privacy, but that of his date, as well. He's always said he feels sympathy for the women who, overnight, loses her privacy and is stalked by media day and night. "Kawawa naman," he would say.

He's often said that it's nearly impossible to develop a relationship...or even get to know a woman—in the center of the media storm. How can he even have a love life, in the first place, or the two things are going?

Another way of putting it: Does our media report on the presidential love life when there's none developing to begin with, when the President could hardly get a (personal) life going?

Is media going overboard where coverage of Aquino's love life is concerned? (Okay, look who's talking.) Just how nosy should the nosey media and the people be?

To answer this, we took a random poll, on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the nosiest. Here's what people say.

**Thelma San Juan**

WE POLLED 89 respondents, six of whom did not assign a number, and several of whom said "zero," even if it wasn't on the suggested scale. The most common response was 1, with 17 responses, followed by a safe 5, with 13 responses.

The average when computed: 4.3—on the average, the people we polled would like to keep out of P-Noy's love life. Looks like we may not be as nosey as we think.

1—Only because he has expressed his desire to keep his love life private.—**Frances Sarmiento, lawyer**

7—Since P-Noy is still in the dating stage, I find it unfair for his date to be on the front page of a newspaper, especially if that woman is a lady and not a public personality. It becomes a different matter if he is in an exclusive relationship, where I think a nosey 7 should suffice—just enough to get to know a potential First Lady and focus more on pressing issues.—**Lulu Lobrenia, artist**

10—Matters of his heart are one matters of the state. Who he loves can affect the decisions.—**Bern Bellen, artist**

3—I'm deserves his privacy, we shouldn't somehow not encourage being nosey and freakily it's none of our business!—**Chickee Barcena, wife and mom**

8—Can disarmers, makeup artist

3—Only report it if he's dating someone

Sunday

# While you were busy looking at Shalani, Liz Uy, atbp.

Compiled by Liz Zulueta

## 2010

July 26...The administration's crackdown on tax evaders begins with the filing of a tax evasion case against William T. Sikorski, sole proprietor of W Sikorski Recruiting.

July 26...President Aquino delivers his first State of the Nation Address, listing a laundry list of accomplishments under the Aquino administration.

SHALANI Soledad

Sept. 16...The government raises P1 billion from sale of securities, marking the sale of the first peso-denominated bond outside the country.

Sept. 24...The United Nations grants the Philippines $630 million (P30 billion) in financial assistance. This is the first foreign assistance program granted by the United Nations during Aquino's term.

Sept. 28...Aquino names home with $2.6 billion in new US investments.

Oct. 6...Depdev announces the administration's E / U (timeline plus U-proof) program. However, officials say it won't happen until the end of the Aquino administration in 2015.

Oct. 10...The Australian government says it has set aside at least P2 billion this year for the Aquino administration's basic education reform agenda.

LIZ Uy

Nov. 16...Aquino expects a minimum $130 billion in new investments and $2.6 billion in pre-to-be-framed up bond area deals from Japanese investors when he sees in Yokohama before attending the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) leaders' summit.

Nov. 17...Aquino swaps ordinarily "CNN agenda": Lucio Urban Bribery Super Region and the Office of the North Luzon Quadrangle Area, Presidential Anti-Smuggling Group, Minahasa Reserves in Development Council, Mineral Development Council, Office of the Presidential Adviser on New Government Center, Bicol River Basin Watershed Management Project, Office of Internal Affairs, and the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Global Warming and Climate Change.

While he has not abolished the Elite People Power Commission, the President has cut the number of its members from 21 to just five.

LIZA Lagos

## 2011

Feb. 1...It is reported that the Philippine economy grew at its fastest pace in 2010 since the 73th Edsa People Power Revolution, expanding 7.3 percent due to strong domestic demand fueled by the billions of dollars overseas Filipinos sent home.

Government data show gross domestic product (GDP)...the total value of goods and services produced in the country...rose a seasonally adjusted 15 percent in the final quarter of 2010, more than double the market expectations and a turnaround of a third-quarter contraction.

Feb. 12...Aquino signs EO No. 24, ordering the Cabinet members and other officials relevant to the boards of government-owned or -controlled corporations to any additional compensation for their functions.

Feb. 21...In the 2011 Philippine Development Forum, Aquino says he hasn't denied the rekindling of unexplored resources, the adoption of the new Central budgeting approach, and the increase in the budget for the conditional cash transfer program. He cites the renegotiation and rekindling of unexplored public works contracts amounting to P7 billion. He pegs the savings at P300 million.

March...Aquino says 800,000 families have been added to the beneficiaries of the conditional cash transfer program. He adds that the Department of Agriculture has projected that the deficit in rice production next year would only be 300,000 metric tons compared to 1.3 million this year.

April 2...Aquino blames the drop in his satisfaction ratings on the failure of the good news about his administration to reach the public. Earlier, the Social Weather Stations said that 50 percent of Filipinos were satisfied with the performance of Aquino while 18 percent were dissatisfied, for a net satisfaction rating of +32, lower than his +56 rating in November.

ALVERT Cullen

# Surprise—people don't wan

who is cause for conflict of interest... Miguel Santamaria, photographer

32...Because I'm an introvert and I want to know if his love life is interfering with our nation's affairs.....Lindsay Lohan, beauty teacher

3...I think he is entitled to some privacy, but as the same time he's a public figure, so the media is also entitled to ask questions about his personal life. ... Angel Constantino, author

4...I personally don't think they should be so savvy, because he deserves some privacy.... Miss Universe, contestant

5...When he became President, everything about him became public, as well. Being at UMA before, kind of eclipse at PU and her kids. Marcos with a simple guy, but shows ego seeking figure, ego pa... He deserves, professor

6...The President himself may not in quite much confidence, but his office demands dignity and respect. The moral lesson is discretion. Dr Tantoco: P Hey, should say this [outside dating survey] go round and concentrate instead on working for the good of the nation.....drug culture, writer

7.....last enough to know him and above, but above her in position...he doesn't have a choice.....real [illegible] spiker

8.....I agree, he is the President, as the public does have the right to know...to some extent.....who is getting into the press, decided bedroom, so to speak, but he is also entitled to some privacy, which is a basic right.....[illegible] ...he Castro, school administrator

9.....They should know that about online: it's obvious that it's affecting his work. Other, what it's culturally luxurious, I think.....kasi was molested, adult, ...ior

10 ...I agree. It's his private life; let's give it to him. What media should do is check who he does and show not do as the country's president. Who he does when he's engaged and getting married, that's the time media can move.....today time, as owner of Myth and Boho boutique.

11.....Leaving from the saying "behind every great man is a woman," we can't help but be curious [and anxious] as to whom the president of the country is dating. If someone's influence on a man cannot be overly underscored.....ind. ...ter, designer

12...I think there are more important things than his love life or who he is dating.....his recent ...photog spiker

13.....I think the media has every right to be savvy, but it's up to P Hey whether or not he wants to answer. Personally, I don't care! Hahaha. Debugger, programmer, writer

14...In becoming the most interested in his love life. I'd be more interested in who he was dating if he was an amazing president.....Jose Jaime, writer

15.....Because he is the President, and not a celebrity. I don't think we should be privy to his personal affairs. Now, if he decides to get married, I'll give him a huge discount.....James Reyes, fashion designer

P Hey should appreciate the media because it was his presidency and now, his private life because a public concern.....his health, smoking habit, love for fast cars, classmates in his school buddies, his love life and dates.....whether or not is this a distant bonding or the performance of his duties, is now open to public scrutiny by the media and the public. We cannot put it on a scale of 1 to 10.....Since must be no price or greater nor censorship. The President, however, for what he has public life under our liberties, is...

...no exclusive interest, there must be justifiable caution; any public inspection of a citizen or wrong-coming disfavors. Said the interest of the public is served, however, "public officials should not be censored.....Lorena Kapauan, lawyer

8.....Media should be savvy with P Hey's love life because he's a public official, and we know that having a girlfriend can influence one's thinking.....Gerpacio Lacanilao, fashion designer

9.....Every thing should be done in moderation. It's normal for reporters to talk about his love life, but not to the point where he does and other do, talk any more.....Judy Ta, writer and publicist.....Philippine, and UP Diliman, Hyundai Elementary Section Phils.

8.....Why not? It's our right, equality. Media public relations interesting. A bit of quick, for news over in a while is good.....Hanree Uy, lawyer, owner of Cuisine, Frenzy and Co. in boutiques

9.....However serious you are, it is also fun, media pang-aasar. Mukhang sa aki-pinag-uusapan ng pare at kapwa, kwang nang dapat gawin. ...Ayel Dagdag, businessman

1.....Because from pages should be reserved for more serious matters. But P Hey should show more consideration for women, and not be a predator of young singles.....Anna Linda de Leon, writer and activist

2.....With this respect to the President, I don't see should all citizens evade themselves from his private affairs. After all, he is not a showbiz celebrity whose lives is for our amusement. He shouldn't even the line.....Jorge Ramon, designer

3.....None of our business. We should be more concerned about what he is doing for us and our country.....Alia Barranco, owner, Kinds Art Ella

4.....He love life is not a matter of importance. He must be more concerned of personal space and getting life is, after all, a bachelor. Some fight were about it will do...Antonio Lacson, owner, he's doing a power politics.....Imelda de Leon, Komadan, model and jewelry designer

5.....Between 1 and 2...As long as P Hey's love life doesn't interfere with his public life, then the press should have a distance.....Wig Gamonan, photographer

2.....That would be reasonable. But we are such zealous when it comes to the private lives of our leaders. In long run, Prince William no kind anymore, attention-seeker, at P Hey pa. But I wish media would not overdramatize the stuff.....Cori Quimpo, actress

3.....As "brainwaves" of the country we have a right to know who occupies his heart, other than the Filipino people. The person can influence and affect P Hey's decision-making. When love are not implicated, I want to know what keeps him busy; who diverts his attention. Why not a lot, though? I'm giving him space to fall in love as a normal human being.....Cassidy Pangilinan, consultant

2 to 3...I think that the President should be entitled to some privacy as it pertains to his love life. Unless there is a chance that the woman he is with is adversely affecting his work, what he does with his love life should really be none of our.....Celebrity business, marketing manager, Nylon Blackbox

1.....If it affects national security or budget allocation, then I guess we can entertain all we want. But seriously, I think there are more important things on his plate, and he definitely has more things on his plate, as well; rather than his own attention as not be diverted with his love. Let's not forget the meeting of his love life and his personal possession up to him.....Ira Aguilla, editor in chief Cosmopolitan Magazine

3.....Filipinos in general are entitled to a point that we become weary. We love to read and watch how others live their lives. As media, you can be as nosey to the max but only the truth.

In others, I think I draw love is something very personal. We need to give the President's honor to goodness get.....Ronald B Hong CEO

2.....Only as an FO, and as a national position, please.....Marissa Antolin-Lorenzo, big design artist and owner

3.....Whether the President likes it or not, his love life...rules he does, what he does in his personal time, how he conducts the affairs of his house...reflects his values, priorities, state of mind, sense of judgment, level of maturity and capability to govern. He is no longer an ordinary citizen, and he is accountable to the people since of his...

The coverage of his personal life is a matter of national concern.....Paul Abrasan, journalist, TV executive producer

On a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the nosiest, respondents on the average go for 4.3

# nt to be nosey about P-Noy's love life

1... It's none of their (or anyone else's) business. Yes, they can voice about other people's love lives, based on what they see, but wagging my finger is very inappropriate and very personal. —Isabel Albiez, CSR fashion designer/student

2... Because love life is private, and celebrities are a personal matter and should not be public affairs. —Irene Cortes, P-e-ace life coach and motivator

3... Putting a person's relationship in the spotlight puts unnecessary pressure on the two people in question, in which case another would be unfair to them. —Jessica Lucero, Preview Magazine associate editor

4... If some are able to exploit media for personal gain and PR, I think it's only fair that the love goes both ways. —Miguel Enriquez, president/member

5... Because someone's love life should be kept personal. It's a natural thing! Nosey media or the public educational diets mess business and focus on their own love lives. My heart says 3, because it's his personal life and none of our business. Even the President is entitled to his privacy. But then again, reality says 2!, because the job of the press is to be nosey, especially in matters of the love of public figures. —Jackie Aquino, fashion diva

6... Please give the guy a break! He personal life! —Jill Sandique shouldn't be the owners of attention. There are other issues that affect the general public, and those are the ones that need some media coverage.— Jill Sandique, senior chef/Chiller

7... While P-Noy does with his personal life in his bedroom. As long as he runs the country with brain, mind and soul we shouldn't care what he does on his own time. However, I said 2 because some people need a break from the politicians here and read about every day. —Marie Imlach, owner/Café Marlin/runner

8... Even a public figure like the Pres. deut should be considered a fair amount of privacy vis-a-vis his love life. For as long as he executes his life does not interfere with the way he runs and represents the country, let's cut him some slack. Bottom line is, we are all human beings on the same journey called life. There are so many things the media can focus on, like not losing our country,... —Jenny Ponte, chief Operating Asset's Director/Lawyer

9... He is a public servant and figure. It really is a matter of great or national interest how he conducts himself, who influences him and his decisions. Why the Internet First Lady will be is important because she will play an important role on how our country will be shaped. Case in point: Hillary Clinton, Mike Bocoyo, Imelda Marcos. The first spouse holds a great deal of power in influence a leader of a country... —Miguel de Al. Ba., Alfie's Restaurant

1... P-Noy's love life is private, but because he is the leader of our country, we all, as many in the owner of vehicles is taking. For example, runner the town, but if he's doing a robber, then we should protest. It's because runner the town. And his love life would be affecting wives... —Ashby Tantoo, Hyppe Living Films

2... People should not be too nosey. P-Noy's lovelife should not make any headlines. —Anela Magbanua, Clip-ador

3... It's none of our business. The focus should be on the effectiveness as a president, not on his love life... —Vicky Andrews, Chalmes 1911, Jeans, Swiss and Jubilee Cafe/chef

4... P-Noy's love life is purely for entertainment value. Nothing more. —Maribeth Santiago, Chocolate Confection

5... P-Noy, like all of us, is entitled to his privacy. I think we should try to give him space. However, as President and a public figure, such news is welcome, until the country had serious or real to the newspapers each day, like (eg, Singapore Airlines overlisting him)

6... So that P-Noy will be free, very excited in choosing his First Lady. Knowing that all eyes are on them will serve as a deterrent to romantic entanglings. Unlike other presidents, he has the benefit of choice... Cory Gutalbas, The Co Kitchen

7... My bank is the ideal number of hours of sleep for a human being, which is eight hours. That's 33 percent of his time. Who runs house hours playtime... 42 percent or any hog. If they. That's the five minutes he might be here away from media, and play time. Media should not report P-Noy to have himself, like his sister does. And I don't want to know if he takes he snores, drools, farts or makes fighting babies! I just want media to tell me what will make me adore and respect my President so that I can support him for the sake of this nice struck, noble mistreated feeling country... —Nancy Reyes Lumen, editor in chief/Cook Magazine

8... That's his life. Personal as just.... Period! He's personal love life? He asked for privacy to this area that he is trying to figure out. Give him space and time... —Irma Lim, Tatum, Jacoby, Mann Boutique

9... I think even if he is President, he is still human. He deserves space and privacy. His job is not an easy one. He deserves to be happy, too. —Janice de Belen, actress and TV personality

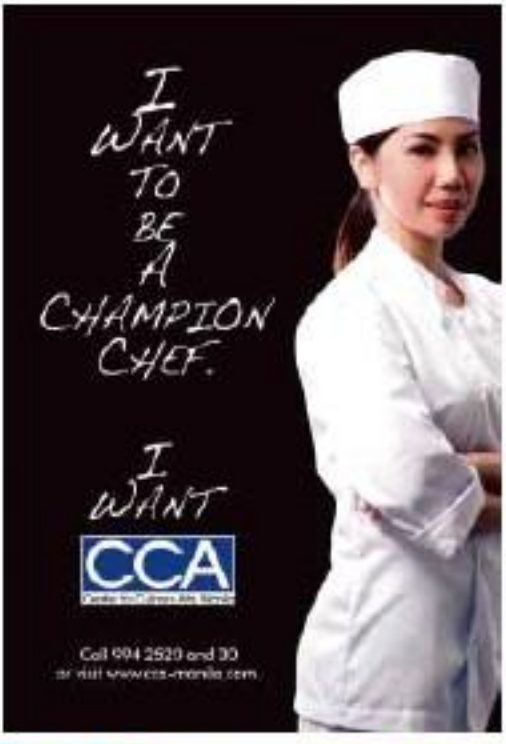
2... With a cool, but we and a top couple in the country, the media is now his only excuse to not getting the girl... Sir Abesamis, Serenpide Bakery and Café

3... Let's not develop a culture of paparazzi like in Europe for public officials, especially when it comes to love life... —Ariel Fernandez, Asian-ture Hospitality Academy marketing director

4... P-Noy is a public figure. But then, the media should only go so far as P-Noy will allow. Just them to get into his love life to respect the country's privacy. Let's be honest, she doesn't mind. All people, including media, want privacy... —Jong Lucas, publisher and businessman

5... If it is entertainment or showbiz news doing the snooping, then it's a 10. Chisme is chisme, and he is a well-known

—Interviews by

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Sunday LIFESTYLE Relationships

# She wasn't 'just a dog'

Losing a pet can be a genuine tragedy for some people. If you don't get it, then at least respect our grief

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# She wasn't 'just a dog'

By Ajit D. Hussain

EVERY sunny day, outside my, of his, because she loved the sun and the sea and the summertime. I still take her every single minute.

I lost my dog of almost seven years, my yellow Labrador, Bonnie, last April 26, of sudden cardiac arrest. She would have been 7 years old last May 25.

ALWAYS remember Bonnie, Bonnie, 2000

I have lost dogs before, but Bonnie was, to put it simply, the dog of my heart. I'm not saying I will never love another dog, she is survived by her baby sister, an adult, loving Rhodesian ridgeback mix she found on the street two years ago, and who is my main companion in my running, constantly allowing me to literally cry on her little shoulder. Still, the Bonnie hole is the one hole that

That extraordinary animal and I shared many wonderful times, and we were bonded in ways that dog people and non-dog people would find peculiar, who have never had pets will never quite grasp.

I am writing this, because I feel I have to explain why—why losing a dog is a genuine tragedy, and why some needs help and some don't, in case you were inconsiderate enough to say, "I'm sorry, I'm not a dog people.

### Normal

As far as I know, I'm normal. I have a decent career, reasonable abilities, friends who will attest to my better traits, and a relatively non-dysfunctional obsession with astronomy, although I have many opinions about people who straighten and eat dogs and lizards.

I don't have the idea that people in some parts eat children, and to myself, give all their treatment to infants as pets, so as there is considerate for domesticity. I chose not to have children, and I don't regret it one bit.

Dogs, on the other hand, are my favorite animals, and for them I have infinite patience. The effects of a pet on one's well-being are well-factually documented. "The sighted farmers, animals have played a significant role in human cultures, literally and figurative," states the website of the Delta Society of Pet Partners and Humane Services on the health benefits of pets. "Primitive people found that human-animal relationships were important to their very survival."

The first recorded use of animals as a therapeutic setting of illness and illness was in 1919. The website reports, at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, DC, where dogs were used as companions for psychiatric patients. Today, they continues to provide therapy for children, veterans, people with mental problems, and even death-disabled soldiers. The popularity of the Dr. Dog program worldwide, carried out locally by the Philippine Animal Welfare Society (Paws), is further proof.

### Priceless bonds

I don't need studies to tell me, however, what dogs brings to my life. Where do I begin? Unconditional love, complete acceptance, humor, and a primal wisdom that allows them to live in the moment, not worry about the past, and live in the present. Dogs are the complete opposite of human beings—basically, it takes a human decade or more to develop to become happy.

What have people told me that have helped make things easier?

"She had a good life." Every pet owner, no matter how devoted, will always feel some guilt. She didn't live as long as she could have because of the beloved animal. Should I have spent more time with Bonnie instead of working? Did I do all I could to deal with her many health problems? The questioning could go on and on, but when people say this, it's like a balm to me. Genuinely, when people beg you to stop crying, you feel awkward, silly, and resentful that they won't let you be yourself, because they probably just don't know what to do with you.

Finally, there people who did know how—"I miss her, too." Hearing this from friends and from her doctor reminds me that Bonnie really was a wonderful dog, and I'm not the only one who misses the way it all here.

### Mourning period

What do I have that reminds me why I sometimes feel animals more than people?

"Move on." I got this from a relative—the day Bonnie died. I wasn't even cold from myself the same thing—move, in that direction, so I'm sorry. Suits me as possible. This is no space for grieving, and I'll stay as long as I need it and as long as I feel I am honoring her, thank you.

"Time smooths dogs." I naturally wanted to tell anyone who said this to me, but I have learned that, while some folks do look at dogs like walled underwear you can't keep as a gift, others mean well. One friend found a dog in a shelter, while another, from experience, simply said that coming for a new one—not necessarily a replacement—helped ease the sadness.

I prefer to see my mourning period through, and I would not want the grieving to stop of the same breed, or who looks a lot like the previous pet. I believe that when Khay is ready to receive a baby mine, Bonnie will send her to us.

Oh, and speaking of Khay, here's another gem: "When will you get another dog?" "I will have Khay as an Pet." I say. "Oh." Short silence. "So when will you get another one?" Sup, for some people, Khay's just a pet—she's wonderful, and adult don't count.

Then there's my favorite: "Good thing she's just a dog." Yes, I was told that admirable, maybe in the reason of "At least she's not a person." Still, it made my head spin. Because in many ways, I consider the best just as significant and life-altering.

I remember a self-explanatory anonymous passage I read on the subject: "If you think it's just a dog, you will probably understand. If you don't, you'll never find 'just a someone,' or 'just a promise.'"

To people who honestly don't see the point, I'm not asking for compassion, just, really, if you think I'm a fool, then let's stay out of each other's hair.

And I'd ask for respect, and recognition of the fact that my feelings are valid and are not a sign of weakness, because there have very important part of my life.

Maybe you'd rather buy a dog as a watch at a price that you feel a bargain, or get more time and money inputting stuff into your face to make you look frighteningly younger. If that's your business, my money here difficult that is for me to understand. I'll leave you to it. To leave me to mine, which, right now, is running my dog.

Life goes on for Khay and me. We're finding new things for her to do, and I manage to work, stick to my routine, laugh at jokes, and remain a productive member of society. I don't think I am outwardly behaving anyone with my grief, other than sometimes telling a sad face (:() to selected friends to let them know it's a bad day, and keeping the same wardrobe number.

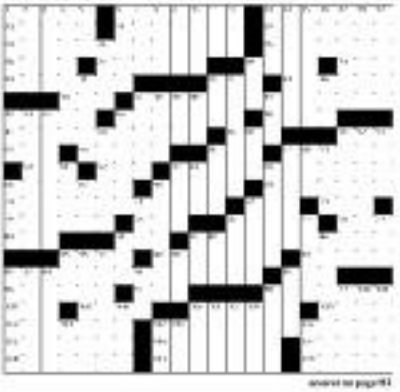
I know things will get better, and I will be happy again; my dog taught me that. But for now, the world has become a less sunny place, and will continue to be so for a while. When I miss Bonnie and feel like crying, I do, and nobody is going to tell me that I can't—especially not "just an a person."

Because she wasn't "just a dog."

## Sunday Crossword

PREMIER CROSSWORD By Frank A. Longo

NATIONAL PASTRY PILLING



answer on page 4

# Mediatrix Flores De Mayo 2011

"And behold, behold! Here is the Rose which Filipinos very often address Mary. And our Filipino tradition has surely fruitful will all the levers of piety to Mary as Mother of God and sibling mediatrix just with whom we can call her our own Mother." "The loyalty of our people to Christ has been closely bound with our devotion to Mary who is His Mother and ours. Rather than discourage a filial devotion like this, we need to cultivate it, and duly. But we may also help it develop in a healthy way. Devotion to Mary's mediatrix role in the Redemption." – CBCP Pastoral Letter, Mary, Mother of Our Hope, May 1988

May 2 February 1970 in the Pastoral Letter our pastors have admonished us. "Public and traditional Marian celebrations like the Flores de Mayo often connected with the Santacruzan, must be preserved from becoming fashion shows that take away their spiritual meaning, with the danger of converting Marian devotions into beauty parades rather than religious manifestations of faith. Similarly, the traditional forms of devotion must never be ostentatious show to be displayed for guests or visitors. The real spirit of these devotions should be emphasized, and not merely the external practice." It is in a spirit of nurturing the veneration and love Filipinos have for the Blessed Mother by leading them on to a deepened spirituality of true devotion to Mary, that the confidently joyfully initiates these activities for Flores de Mayo 2011. The Flores de Mayo Mediatrix Gathering will be held on May 30 to the Plus 10 Catholic Center on UNA-ense in Manila while the Flores de Mayo Mediatrix Pilgrimage to Lipa will be on May 31. Please signify your intention to participate in either or both these activities by emailing mediatrixflores@yahoo.com

The difficulties and problems of the contemporary Family Life apostolate considered, I hereby endorse the Mediatrix Flores de Mayo 2011 to bring our people to the shrines and altars of the Blessed Mother, there to acknowledge and honor Her as dismal mediatrix of grace and entrust them as good in the world. The slow descent of Evil-eight tainting that support the anti-life forces must be matched by our overflowing devotion and response into the Blessed Virgin Mary if we are to surmount the challenges this pose to the Church. Mary Mediatrix of All Graces, pray for the Filipino Family.

+Reclano D. Arevalo, D.D.
Chairman
Episcopal Commission on Family and Life - CBCP

I was recently privileged to lead a pilgrimage group from the Archdiocese of Cotabato to various Marian shrines in Luzon. Our stop at the Convent of Lipa was a touching moment for many in the group, and a highpoint in our Marian pilgrimage. I have come to know the story of the Marians founder, Fr. Jose Clemente, and the other details of the extraordinary happenings in this contemplative convent. So, my first consolation that as many more come to know of the events that have transpired in this Carmelite monastery, more Filipinos will have a devotion to Our Lady under the title of Mediatrix of All Graces. I hope that many of the Catholic faithful will be able to come to this Carmel to pray and to draw grace and spiritual benefits for their souls. It is with that sentiment and gratitude for the favors received by our pilgrimage group that I make this call to participate for the Flores de Mayo Mediatrix Gathering on May 30, 2011 at Plus 10 Catholic Center, Ukanense. I look forward to having as many as possible join the Marian Pilgrimage on May 31. God bless you and your families.

+Jose Colin M. Bagaforo, D.D.
Auxiliary Bishop of Cotabato
Commissioner, Mediatrix Flores de Mayo 2011

"Here is my son of grace / In the arms of Jehovah / that does not have to do / with conception / No / celebration of the / Holy Eucharist"

Flores De Mayo Mediatrix Gathering
May 30, 2011 (Monday)
Plus 10 Catholic Center, Ukanense
Cotabato City, Cotabato

| | |
|---|---|
| 2:00 | Registration |
| 3:00-3:30 | Rosary, Marian Hymns and Devotions |
| 3:30 | Welcome and Announcement of Mary Mediatrix |
| | Mediatrix Address – Commission on Mary Mediatrix |
| | Mediatrix Address – Diocese of Kidapawan |
| | Prayers |
| 4:00 | Veneration and Enthronement of Mary Mediatrix |
| | Mediatrix Address – Commission on Mary Mediatrix |
| | Mediatrix Address – City of Manila (opening Remarks – Bishop Socrates Villegas) |
| | Prayers |
| 4:45-5:00 | The Story of Lipa |
| 5:00-5:15 | Testimony |
| 5:15-5:30 | Prayer Groups |
| 5:30-5:45 | Regina Youth |
| 5:45-6:00 | Lumen |
| 6:00-6:30 | Rosary Exhibition |
| 6:30-6:45 | Rosary of the Immaculate Conception of the Carmelites |
| 6:45-7:00 | Prayers and Rosary Mysteries (songs) |
| 7:00-7:30 | Testimony |
| 7:30-8:00 | Prayer Groups |
| 8:00-8:30 | 3 Hours Prayer |
| 8:30-9:15 | Closing |
| 9:15-9:30 | Presentation of Roses and Proposals Regarding Mediatrix |
| 9:30-9:45 | Mass / Novel Offering |
| | Consecration of the Family |
| | Commission Report (Fr. Jose Fernandez) |

Flores de Mayo Mediatrix Pilgrimage
to Carmel (Lipa Monastery)
May 31, 2011

Assembly Area:
Plaza Pres. Carlos P. Garcia
(c/o Ukanense Alumni)
7:30 - 8:00 AM

| | |
|---|---|
| Departure | 8:00 AM |
| Arrival Carmel (Lipa Monastery) | 12:00 NOON |
| Lunch | 12:00-1:30 PM |
| Recollection & Mass | 1:30-3:00 |
| Personal Intentions | 3:00-4:00 |
| Departure for Manila | 4:00 |
| Arrival Plaza Pres. | 8:00 |

* For participants in the Mediatrix Gathering and interested in the Mediatrix Pilgrimage, please sign up on May 30 for reservation on the Grand Buses. Bring "Baon" for lunch and merienda.
* For those wishing to go on their own to Lipa, please coordinate with Fr. Jose Fernandez, Carmel Lipa Mon., Carmelite Rd. Lipa City, Batangas, Carmel is also a pilgrimage destination for significant Local Celebrations.
* For those taking their own vehicles, one may proceed directly to Carmel (Lipa Monastery) or join with the Manila buses that will be leaving at 9:00 AM on May 31.
* For inquiries call:

Fr. Jose Fernandez (0920) 906 4838
Ms. Ma. Isabel Lopez (0917) 5588 (0908) 8888
Lourdes Cardenas (0908) 8888
Ms. Ma. Isabel Lopez at 4th Estate (0908) 8888
Email: mediatrixflores@yahoo.com
mediatrixflores@gmail.com
Facebook Account: mediatrixflores@yahoo.com

For inquiries and reservations for overnight accommodations at Carmel (Lipa Monastery), please call 043-756-2000 or 043-756-2001 or 043-756-2002 or 043-756-2003 to 05

"Celebrations in honor of Mary allow ordinary people to be one of her chosen, where God's presence among us appears with particular transparency."

Jorge Mario Bergoglio,
Mary in Scripture, Life Today
National Center of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines – Intercessory

# Never lose the wonder

SIGNAL ISLAND, Invro—My friend, PGE columnist John Sory, calls it "a permanent sense of wonder." That's how it's been for me and the children the last few days, as we've welcomed ourselves in my slice of paradise (see photos).

A month ago I decided to bring my children back to discover part of my roots. My father was born and grew up here before he moved to Manila after college. The place is where my heart beats anything. Therefore, it's a small quasi hideaway 15 minutes by ferry boat from the city.

We woke up early and try to catch the sunrise. The waves gently crashing against the shoreline is a sweet lullaby, as the different species of birds that chatter and sing right outside our bedroom window.

We take quiet walks on the wharf, getting to know one another, reading stories about family and friends back home. We make excursions to the east and west, investing in memories that will hopefully last a lifetime.

## New experience

Hearing this paradise island through the eyes of my children has been a valuable new experience. My son, the city boy that he is, has been mesmerized by the sea. My daughter, she with the photographer's eye, has helped me view Invro and Samal through a different, more insightful lens.

Being here, away from the hustle and bustle of city life, brings out one's creativity and sense of adventure. I'm both glad and sad to see that my children have grown to be much braver than I ever was, having a sense of daring, wonder, and adventure that their mother discovered only in midlife.

Margaret Tarnkowsky, associate editor of PinoyCentral.com website, continues her thesis for cultivating a sense of wonder in children. She suggests: "Help children play or do anything." I found great joy on this trip watching my normally reserved son focus and build his sandcastles by the sea, humming and singing songs to himself, impressing the different shells and stones he picked upon the shore.

Tarnkowsky says, "We can all take a lesson from observing children, from how excited they get with a new toy to how they smile at the simplest things. Apply some of that wonder to your daily life."

Second, she suggests that we read up on creativity, to allow ourselves to simply let our imaginations soar and soothe. "I think of having fun and having free. When we're preoccupied with the questions, we forget that." Start with the classic, Anne Lamott's "Bird by Bird: Instructions on Writing and Life." Everyone has an inner artist burned deep within, waiting to be unleashed.

## Mindfulness

Next, she suggests taking up photography and taking time to appreciate good photographs. Illustrative a series of wonderful the beauty all around you, because all it really takes is for one to be still for a moment and appreciate the beauty even in the simplest of things. I believe "mindfulness" would be the right word. "Photographers do an incredible job of finding and capturing the beauty in the smallest of things, in the most mundane of moments." I count that for myself in my daughter's photos of seemingly inconsequential things.

Travel. If you can afford it, great. You don't have to ride a plane or a boat, or go away for long periods. Sometimes all you need to do is go to the library or browse a website and just imagine that you are there. Really. Please. I feel down. I always like to visit travel websites and add to my bucket list of places I would like to visit.

Lastly, Tarnkowsky suggests that we always learn something new about yourself or the world around you. "Learning is one of the best ways you can cultivate curiosity." Learn a new thing every time you're given the familiar rode, or take on a totally strange, interesting school."

Learn with your children. Ask yourself, what have I always wanted to learn about? What classes do I want to take, but never had time to do so? What skill or hobby do I want to pick up that will add to my joy?

Last night, my children and I sat on the balcony of our cottage on a hill. Shooting the breeze. All is engaged and immersed in conversation, a gentle wind blowing, and night lured in creeping from ugly-add solitary terror.

Midway through a sentence, I paused and we all looked out into the vast Invro gulf to watch the flickering lights from ships passing through the night as they mingled with stars. Whether you're in midlife or adolescence, it's important to never lose the wonder.

*Email the author at cathy-bolton@gmail.com. Follow her on Twitter @cathybolton.*

ROOTS AND WINGS

Cathy Bolton-Gutbulla

All it really takes is to be still for a moment and appreciate the beauty, even in the simplest of things

# My aunt is a 'bottomless payback pit'

If only gratitude could be quantified and finished off with a notarized certification of full payment

EMILY'S POST

Emily A. Marcelo

DEAR EMILY,

My mother came from an upper middle-class family in the province, but married poor. She finished college in Manila, and shortly after graduation, she met my father on the bus on her way home.

My father was a working student who didn't finish college. They fell in love during the two days they were together. A few months after coming home, she said my father eloped. This made the family of my mother very angry. It took them a long time to accept my parents, and only after I was born so I could be blessed by my grandparents.

Since our family lived from hand to mouth, it was decided that being the eldest, I should study in Manila and support my two younger siblings after I graduated. I started with my mother's sister, who supposedly married a rich guy. I had to pay for my board and lodging in my aunt's house.

I cleaned their toilets, did their laundry and ran errands for everyone. For four years, I lived like a maid and was never treated like a blood relative. My sensitive nose all spoiled, and I had to pick up their mess.

When I graduated and passed the CPA exams, I got lucky. I was able to get a very good job and soon married the first and only boyfriend I had, who was schoolmate in college.

He also came from a province in the south. He and his siblings were raised by an ofw so humble, that I never had an inkling what their family was. He never talked about his parents, and only said they were very strict and religious. I just knew he loved me very much.

He wanted to build a bridge from our low financially comfortable they were! My parents and his got along fine because they accepted how poor we were, and my parents never got around by their wealth.

It was then that my mother's relatives started to blame on us, especially this aunt who treated me like a maid. Her five house chil ren but husband left her for a younger woman. Nobody among her children prospered. They all lived in the same old house, even when her three children already had families of their own.

My problem started when some of the cousins my husband and I invested in, he needed to expand our sari-sari store. He was not yet a relative of it, and immediately asked me if she could "save" it for a "few" months, or until we get a new tenant. She said she needed a place "to rest."

When we agreed, she only offered to pay for the monthly building dues. That was four years ago. Sadly, we ended up paying for her electricity and water bills, as well.

Every time someone would show interest in renting it, she'd become livid and start telling anybody who'd listen that it would be ungrateful of me to throw her out. It's not the money alone that is bothering us, but her attitude.

My question is, when can I ever get back this supposed debt I owe her? Is there any statute of limitations for grudges?

JAC

Very interesting indeed. This is a problem that is not only family with, but friends with, as well. If only gratitude could be quantified and finished off with a notarized certification of full payment.

Your aunt's audacity stems from her belief that the last debtor is oblivious for her purposes. Her sense of entitlement and humble, she would probably be afraid you would throw her out and leave her to live with her own devices (and I'm guessing what a mess you are, she has been conditioned to fear her, she's showing you that you have no power over her, and has turned into a entitlement).

But she should know when enough is enough. There is no other way to deal with her than to make her leave realize.

You and your husband may be wealthy on your own, but she has no right to ride on it, considering how shabby she treated you once upon a time. But that is not the point. She has been given enough time to have her "freedom," which you have patiently allowed her to have. She has a house of her own, for goodness' sake!

Send off your prosperity to make herself comfortable, when there wasn't even a semblance of a clue saved. You bought this place as an investment for your family, not for relatives to take advantage of.

She's been accommodated enough these past four years, in your professed disadvantage! If she has any intelligence or sensitivity left, she'd move out of her own relatives.

No, I don't believe there is a statute of limitations for gratitude. Selective limitation, probably for some, they'd do good and forget it. For many it is a never ending mantra of "you owe me, you owe me." A lamentable patchwork, to read and to seek.

To quote Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel, "A person can almost be defined by his or her answers to a question."

Indeed!

*(emilyatyahoo.com.ph or emarcelo629@gmail.com)*

# Caring for Families is PascualLab's Passion

## After 65 years, the company continues to redefine quality health products for the Filipino people

By Kenneth del Rosario

For a company that has been in existence for more than six decades, it's amazing to see how PascualLab has kept its passion for healthcare, continuing to define and differentiate itself as one of the most trusted pharmaceutical companies in the country.

A company passionate about caring for families, PascualLab sees itself as a family. Not at all surprising since it was established by husband-and-wife chemists Socorro and Leoncio Pascual in 1946, and has seen the active involvement of second and third generation Pascual family members. Despite

The growing number of value-added alternatives that PascualLab provides for each and every member of the family

PascualLab's Passionate Employees

PascualLab Chairman, Dr. Abraham Pascual, President and CEO, Mr. Manuel Romero, 3rd Generation Pascual Family Members, and the rest of the PascualLab Management Team

PASSION

PascualLab's passion is to know us better- to provide every family member with products that may not just cure but care, not just prolong, but improve the quality of life.

HEALTH

LIFE

PASSION
HEALTH
LIFE

Pascual

65 years

Newly-constructed liquids at the PascualLab Manufacturing Plant in Balagtas, Bulacan

www.pascuallab.com

President and CEO Manuel D. Socorro, rallying the employees behind PascualLab's new Mission, Vision and Values

PascualLaboratories circa 1950 in Binondo, Manila

# Pangasinan's secret getaways —yes, there's more than one

## Dasoland, Solomon's Paradise, the town of Bolinao—take your pick

By Amado Mo. Guerrero
Contributor

WITH ITS four cities and 44 towns, the storied, populous province of Pangasinan recently celebrated its 413th Founding Anniversary (Agew na Pangasinan) with a myriad of activities.

These included a song and dance beach party, a grand ball and a civic parade around the trendy Capitol grounds with street dancing, outfitting contingents extravaganzas in imaginative costumes and a float competition.

Pangasinan is a province of spirited festivities, historical churches, festivals, stirring rituals, our Enchanted Cave in Bolinao, with cold spring waters (naturally up to six ft deep), hills, and beach resorts galore.

Places to see include Hundred Islands in Alaminos and Lingayen Gulf; Patar Beach and Resort, Todd's, and Pebble Beach Cafe; and in Lingayen, the Capitol Resort (cool cha- its Bolinao longganisa). Manila bus lines which go to the province (up to Bolinao) are Victory Liner and Five Star.

As to any Philippine province, the festivals are year-round: Bagoong Festival (last week of April in Lingayen); Bangus Festival (April 30, Dagupan); Pistay Dayat (on Dec. 31st (May 1, Lingayen); Pista Festival (1st week of May Labrador); the Tribal Festival (May 14, San Nicolas); Galicano Festival (2nd week of December, Mangaldan); and the Hoor (Adventure) Challenge (last week of December, Bautista).

### Ecotourist attraction

A new ecotourist attraction is Dasoland (a family adventure park), located in a remote plantation filled with mango trees in San Vicente, Dasol, just a stone's away from northern Zambales. Of the huge property, 62 hectares have been developed for ecotourism purposes (e-mail dasoland@yahoo.com).

Dasoland's features include a Safety Village, museum, zoo, flower park, signature garden, Dagan houses, butterfly gardens with the winged creatures swirling around you; canine house, mini-golf course, bicycle lane and World War II memorabilia.

Outdoor fun go horseback riding, swimming, or stampeding around in the Play Fort and playground. There are day tours and, for a longer stay, quaint cottages.

Most impressive for me was the Silla, a faithful recreation of a bahay na bato (ancestral home), complete with unique furniture, art nouveau wood carvings, grand

READ MORE ON P2

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unlimited surfing

One of the island's originals, Pearl of the Pacific Resort wants to develop in harmony with nature, as they build an addition to the property

# Helping keep Boracay the way it was

TOP: Bamboo installation by Nepal Pavalia. Above: Sandriver Suite

By Louie Cruz Corrector

A THIS growing influx of tourists inevitably inspires resort owners in Boracay to keep building, so one owner is determined to keep their island the way it's been the last few decades—despite the growing demand for development—than the owners of Pearl of the Pacific Resort, Greg and Marilou Isaacs.

Having lived on the island since it was at its poorest, the family understands that the place has a heart, and is build sensitively and irresponsibly on top of it is equivalent to stabbing the nature. Earlier daughter Tina very succinctly put it, "Pearl of the Pacific is the only resort in the island which retains island vibes Boracay was before, and what it should be today."

She's right, too. Pearl of the Pacific is one of the island's pervasive resorts, sitting on an eight-hectare area of lush forest, pristine, billboard powder white sand. A pristine bird's

Filipino HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Celebrate Heritage Month this May

Schedule of Activities | Heritage Awards 2011

MAY 1 – 31
Pacific Star Entertainment Area | Lapu-Lapu Shrine
Angeles City

MAY 1 – 31
Philippine Museum Day
1,001 Live Music Heritage Performing Acts
1,001 Live Visual Arts Exhibitions
2,000 Students Participating

MAY 1 – 31
Heritage Quiz Bowl Contest
SM Philippines

MAY 1 – 31
Philippine Fiesta Festival
SM Mall of Asia

MAY 1 – 31
Museum Bonus Card SM – with Iloilo City Cultural and Heritage Organizations Discounts
Iloilo City

MAY 1 – 31
Asia Central by Alfredo "Bing Gamos" with the Asia Central Inc.
SM Clarkview

MAY 1 – 31
Pulanglupa en Bigaha in the Philippines
SM Mall of Asia, Pasay City

MAY 1 – 31
Philippine Fiesta Festival
SM Mall of Asia

MAY 1 – 31
Excellence Where the Lion Whispers with the Clouds
by Mayet Paz Hernandez
SM Clarkview

MAY 1 – 31
Photography Competition
SM Megamall

MAY 1 – 31
Ayala Malls Manila Bay Inc. et al. vs.
Ayala Corporation, Ayala Land Inc.
SM Mall of Asia, Pasay City

MAY 1 – 31
Festival Art Exhibition
SM Mall of Asia

MAY 1 – 31
Philippine Landscape Art Show
SM Mall of Asia, Pasay City, Metro Manila

MAY 1 – 31
Philippine Landscape Art Show
SM Mall of Asia, Pasay City, Metro Manila

MAY 1 – 31
Asia Alliance Bank vs. A Republic of Mariveles and the Chambers of Mariveles
SM Mall of Asia, Pasay City, Metro Manila

MAY 1 – JUNE 4
Pacific Lumber Investments of the Bay Bulletin
SM Megamall

MAY 1 – JUNE 4
American Refugees in the Philippines
SM Mall of Asia

MAY 1 – 31
Philippine Opera Company with the Philippine Symphony Orchestra
Manila Metropolitan Theater

MAY 1 – 31
Philippine Piano Competition
Manila, Metro Manila

MAY 31
Heritage Pilgrimage
Manila, Metro Manila

JUNE 1
Heritage Conservation Awards Night at 7:00
Iloilo Cinema, Plaza City

JUNE 1
Pasay Road Runners Association Inc.
Pasay City

JUNE 1 – 30
Mall of Asia Global Mega Trade Show Philippines
SM Mall of Asia, Pasay City

JUNE 10
Manila
Philippine Opera Company
Manila City

JUNE 11
Manila
Philippine Opera Company
Manila City

JUNE 12
Manila
Philippine Opera Company
Manila City

For more information please contact the
[illegible]
Tel: +632-[illegible]
Email: heritage@philfestival.com.ph
Manila Metropolitan Ground Floor, Museum of the Filipino People, Agrifina Circle, Manila

SECURITY BANK

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PAST Mother and Queen of All Nations Chapel

ON THE beachfront

MABLOU and Greg Sawan

"We made sure the homes on this land are retained," says Mabel Mendoza, Head of the Pacific general manager. "The owners want the big trees conserved; they have already told us that their trees are the ones holding the land together. Besides, we don't want to kill the fireflies."

Head of the Pacific offers spa and salon services, excellent bar and dining amenities (including an outdoor grill dinner buffet at P550 per person), but according to Mendoza, everything will be refurbished.

As long as the beach and breeze remain the way they are for many years to come, everything will be perfect as it is as Station 1. And, fortunately, Head of the Pacific will make sure it does.

Call 5598162, 5594680 or visit www.pacificbeach.ph.

gas overlooking the sunset (but it was fine to request), they turned to the serene hills of their forest land rather than the spacious sand area in front of them. And when the owners decided it was time to renovate their existing infrastructure, they made sure the resulting structure will be just as airy, but longer and natural as it has always been. Save their outdoor bar is destructible, sustainable, an endearing landmark location by Royal Mandaya.

The newly added Pearl Residences will be a four-story condominium-style building erected along the island's breathtaking forest and its surrounding area. It is a short walk from the Shrine, the Mary Mother and Queen of all Nations chapel, surrounded by trees and the kind of silence only God and nature can provide.

The Residences will have 21 units available within the year (1st), two bedrooms, one bedroom, and studio type), all fitted with energy efficient features and large windows that open up to a breeze so fresh it would be silly to turn on the air conditioning.

## HAVE PIZZA, WIN CAR

PUGAD-TYRE Hilltops at Cherokee Hill Resort in Ilocos

# Pangasinan's secret getaways –yes, there's more than one

From page E1

Gateway and open shell windows. On the second floor is a panoramic view of the surrounding landscape. The Villa offers spacious cultural activities.

The emerging resort-tourism center in Pangasinan is Bolinao, on the northernmost tip of the province. Facing the South China Sea, early in clear summertime waters shining bright white, however, visitors find the normally hot setting for swimming), caves, falls, hotels and beach resorts with white sand.

Three include El Presidio, Colonna, Patio Riviera, Don Benito, Cocos, Rock Garden and Treasures of Bolinao.

A Bolinao landmark is the Cape Bolinao Lighthouse, built in 1905 by a British and a Filipino engineer, located 18 km from the town proper. At 201.8 above sea level, it is one of the tallest in the country, with 115 stairs. The lighthouse is a frequent site for location shooting, the most recent one being a movie starring Richard Gutierrez and Angel Locsin.

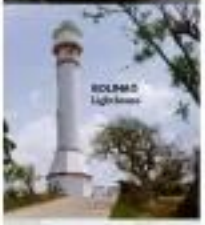
Down below, you can see the big, white beach protected by hilltops and resorts ranging from budget to standard.

### Superb seascape

On the way to the lighthouse, an unpretentious sign cottage to first led to a landscape hillside and there was the superb seascape, boulders and rock formations, neat beach cover, with the waves crashing down below us, and trees, rugged on cliffs jutting out, almost terrific sharp, into the sky.

The owner was to me surprise. Solomon's Paradise, owned by multimillionaire Solomon (check the Internet and his Facebook), who discovered that place in the wilderness by banking his way through. His story is a familiar one. An adventurous Foreigner comes to the Philippines, falls in love with the beauty of the archipelago, marries a local belle and goes out to create an oasis of his dreams.

The owner has two enterprises that are in the studio colleagues pointed out, two spots for writing. As I felt like Hemingway on the cliff brooding over the Sothebys power. Or, to make it more Hollywoodish, we felt like Leonardo DiCaprio in "Titanic"—"on top of the world."



Sunday LIFESTYLE

# It's (still) all about Moms!

Modern moms are chic, engaged and multi-faceted women, whether they be 20 or 60

MOTHERS for Others team Kitjo Tinga, Audrey Zubiri, Marisol Pangilinan, Monette Medved-Po, Bea Princesa and Janice Lhuillier Hew

TESSA! TESSA PRIETO-MALIKSI

How DO we stop time so we can enjoy life more fully and mould the years? Those busy summer days kept me running around to watch events and kids' activities, and traveling to exciting destinations. It's like I'm on a roller coaster, and there's no getting off.

Before May is over, I want to give another shoutout to all the mothers out there. Several offices this month have honored us moms and have given me a chance to be in this "profession" that is much

(Continued on A2)

and with love!

In celebration of every mother's heroic love and compassion, the Ramon Ang Foundation recently joined hands with outstanding moms and the country's top fashion designers to launch Mothers for Others, a charity fashion show for the benefit of the Interchurch pediatric heart patients.

## Mothers for Others charity fashion show

Joyce Tinga, who is also co-producer of the Red Cross Ball, is one of the lead proponents of Mothers for Others, along with the Ramon Ang Advisory Board members Ms Nanette Medved-Po and Audrey Zubiri.

The three lovely ladies share their passion in the latest issue of Lifestyle Asia. A special-edition cover was printed and given out at the fundraiser held at the Shed Ballroom of Makati Shangri-La. Ramon Ang will use the proceeds to provide life-saving surgery to over 100 children in critical need, thanks to generous donations from PHILCOA and the PLDT-Smart Foundation.

The event treated some friends of Filipino mothers, William Grenfell Drinking Water, has always partnered with worthy causes such as Ramon Ang. Similarly, the PLDT-Smart Foundation believes in giving equal opportunity to good education and health services.

My youngest daughter Athena was vacationing in the States, so she was not able to model for Ramon Ang member Raja Laurel. So I ended up on the ramp with the rest of the adorable children. It was wonderful to be taller than the rest of the models.

All of us wore outfits by designers like Raja, Pepito Albert, Dennis Lustico, Jesus Infis, Tzit Sourot, Randy Ortiz, Patrice Diaz Ramos, Cary Santiago, Rhett Eala, Jun Escasio and Hud Cabral. It was super to see kids from so many prominent families all patronizing local designers to BIG unique fundraiser.

Other Ramon Ang team members included Carla Ramsay, Jackie Lhuillier Hunt, Lira Chan and Shaine Padilla, who all took turns in a family portrait session escorted by our photographer Patrick Uy.

Before the main fashion show, Ramon Ang member Shoma Delmeta and I hosted a lively auction to generate more funds. I got so excited with the Weekend Getaway in Bangkok from Thai Airways and Dusit Thani Hotel that I won the bid myself! Other auctioned items were a Boracay Holiday now of Shangri-La Resort Boracay, and two sets of "VIP tickets to the Justin Bieber con-

(Continued on A3)

## *Bad grammar, blown up*

IF YOU'RE putting up a huge billboard, the least you can do is check your grammar. Mobilehand, the local auto company has put up this huge image of a gorgeous actress, showing off her dazzling wrights. boasting that she's "Hair free in every angle." We know it's just an awkward construction, but it's a little harder to get away with a taboo it's that big. Either "Hair free at" or "Hair free from" would be the correct option. Previous

TESSA Prieto-Valdez with Alle Hermosa, Patrick Cesar and Rocio Tambunting in Raja Laurel

JACOBO Berenguer Testa and Isabelle del Rosario in her theme

TATIANA, Tamara and Daniela Jimenez in Jun Escario

JOSHUA and Andrea Tarriela Zóbel, Monet Bautista, Randy Ortiz

IRES Angara, Jamie Lagdameo and Isabelle Albert in Dennis Lunio

ANNA Corales and Allegra Rudi-Ignes in Inno Sotto

# It's (still) all about Moms!

Pretongate F1

MOTHERS for Dibers event: Kaye Tinga and mom Cindi and Christian, Zenni Zubiaria, Audrey Zubiri, Chemin Gustilo, Cris Albert, Raja Laurel, Patrice Ramos-Diaz, Bobby Carmona, Pepito Albert, Paul Cabral, Bhert Eala, Randy Ortiz, Charlene Tia, Inez Asensi, Jackie Lhuillier-Hoa, Nannie Medred-Po, Karen Pascual and Carla Kenney

RAMONA Chua and Alexandra Chua Herbert in Patrice Ramos-Diaz

BRITTANY for Raja Laurel with inspiration by Sonja Dramps

DANICA Sotto Pingris and husband Marc Pingris

LOVELY mother and daughter Verdina Laurel Hermosa and Bobot Laurel

FASHION guru Jenni Epperson and Gea Reyes

ANNA Arenas-Alonso and Carla Calma

THE GALLERY of the event's most glamorous items at the launch of Glamourous.com.ph Members Only

KATE Tinga, Nannie Medred, Audrey Zubiri and Coca-Cola Philippines group brand manager for hydration Tinjan Sosaa

PLDT Smart Foundation representatives presenting check to Bunny Bata

AUDREY Zubiri

CHRISTINE Jacob-Sandejas

MEGA Magazine editor Sol Yap and dynamic star-builder Kenny Pascual

LOVELY moms Isabel Bacordizon, Cleeca Dumlao and Mariam Llorico

SMILING Denise Poe and Glam-O-Mama co-founder Amanda Jacob

PRETTY in pink Natasha Gregson, Gea Princess Mikhela Sison and Jun Jun Abbas

JOANNA Prieto-Francisco with daughter Monica

DIANA Yuvienco and Glam-O-Mama co-founder Nicole Jacinto

TWEETING the new Nissan Teana sedan

THAI Airways' PR, Sam Chaipakdirat and Bonna Vicuña and Vince Alabanza

FASHIONABLE ex: Divine Lee, Pauline Hofer and Abigail Ngo

HAPPY friends Candy Dizon, Sara Princess and Bobby Carmona

## Network of Glam-O-Mamas

But let me not digress. I'm talking about moms today when Glam-O-Mamas, a social boutique started by pastry moms Amanda Griffin-Jacob and Nicole Jacinto, was recently launched in Forbes Park.

Modern moms are chic, elegant and multi-layered women, whether they be 28 or 48. Yes, all moms have evolved and are encouraged to continue their glamourous by visiting Glam-O-Mamas.

The social boutique for the Manila moms has had just with a host of signature events, including the Stock Exchange. This mommy collection, the first of its kind in the country, aims to build a community of, mothers and environmentally aware moms who believe in creating a healthy balance between all their various roles.

At the photo exhibit-cum-launch, I wore a fun, colorful outfit by fashion guru Jojo Llaren. Moms were treated to free-flowing dessert light beer and liquor from Ralph's Wines and Spirits, and took home loot bags stocked with Glutano, Drypers and Pure Beauty products as well as photo souvenirs from Mo. Pinch.

Adding to their restraint, the cooler moms recently launched their newest baby Glamoma.com, a fun and informative website that offers yet another platform for moms to connect and share ideas. The photo exhibit opens at the Power Plant Mall June 25-29.

The launch was done in collaboration with Mega Magazine. Some of the nation's most glamorous show-biz moms were featured, like Christine Jacob-Sandejas, Daphne Oseña-Paez and Claudia Zaide. Kramer, to name a few. It seems that to be a modern mom, one must have a hyphen in their name.

Follow Issa on Twitter @issazaldivar or email her at supermom@inquirer.com.ph.

Goldilocks Marketing Director, Vicky Yu

Goldilocks Store Operations Director, Prentiss Go and wife Rose.

# Goldilocks 45th Anniversary Fun Run

By Anne A. Jardeleza

CLOSE TO 30,000 people - elite athletes, running recreationists and weekend warriors alike - trooped to the Bonifacio Global City to run for fun during Goldilocks' 45th anniversary celebration last May 15.

The celebration quickly turned the grounds of Bonifacio High Street into a brownish, carnival-like party as families squatted with delight over the Goldilocks creations that offered prizes such as Goldilocks harness trainers. The runners, naturally, were not left out as they eagerly took turns to have their pictures taken as a variety of themed photos loomed.

"Every runner here is bringing with them at least two people - either family or friends. So you're looking at a crowd that's easily into over 30,000 people today," said Vicky Yu, marketing director of Goldilocks Philippines.

To mark Goldilocks' 45 Quintillionth years in the concern, all proceeds of the fun run went straight to the Goldilocks Foundation (GLF)'s program Developing program, Education, Environment and Disaster Assistance), said Yu. Under this umbrella program, she said, a many local foundations/causes Goldilocks has been actively supporting for years.

"We wanted a big celebration, and we asked to our employees to run many. These are thought, why not do it where we can directly interact with our loyal customers? Through running, which has gained a phenomenal popularity in the recent years, we thought this is would be our best venue to celebrate with many our customers as we possibly can," Yu said.

Stepping Stones, Goldilocks endorser, was also among the 45 Goldilocks celebrants popular "in" structures. "We're sporting in the 'oh big, I mean red' the event, it is so much better that 'we has 'oh my.' Were runners' joy uphill slopes on this race, he said, and that makes it perfect for families to enjoy. But what would become of Goldilocks, he said, if it would not lose in the entire family to join in with them?

"Who among us here - Filipino families - who grew up without Goldilocks in our homes? We - we, Goldilocks played a major role in our childhood. You see a box of Goldilocks and a rush of happy childhood memories come flooding into our thoughts. And that naturally winds up our hearts," said Stevens.

Although running a not exactly among his favorites, Stevens said he strongly believes in the character and foundations that Goldilocks supports. He adds, he said, running activities such as this are way of introducing an active and healthy lifestyle. Hence, surprisingly, is never to about his race time even though he finished the 5k leg ahead than majority of the runners. He was not running for a race, he said, but for a cause.

"Goldilocks makes us remember the good times, it's like a comfort food to us. Today I think it's time Filipinos also get to know Goldilocks even more starting the Filipinos are just through delicious pastries but also through its FILEX program," he said.

The Goldilocks fun run was the first leg of the Run for Social Worlds. Runners who are looking forward to be awardees available at next year's Run for social cause joined the half-marathon leg in this race. Other categories included 5k, 10k and 100 meter dash for children 6-12 years old.

"With Filipinos becoming more health-conscious in the past few years? But is enthusiasm for the race is almost anything yes, she said. While the run has been canonized in several runners/crowd-runner, it is still a good to shoulder place to accommodate, plan and finally exercising the race.

We are happy for the runners as I'm sure the many

Dingdong Dantes with Goldilocks marketing Magnu Vu

beneficiaries of our FILEX program will be happy, too. But who knows? Maybe when we receive and run after ranging this event we'll have the energy to organize another one someday," he said.

Goldilocks Marketing Manager Maria Esmeralda with Coach Ria dela Cruz and Mildred Sanchez

Goldilocks Human Director, Richard Yu with daughter, Mara and son, Matthew

Wendel Ramos | Archie Bulosan | Ryan and Gabby Eigenmann | Steven Silva | Ezra Peter Valdez | Angelika Cruz | Goldilocks President, Freddie Go

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Now 45 and proudly Pinoy, we continue to strengthen our position as a true Filipino icon. Needless to say, this iconic status and the unrivaled relationship we have formed with you, our beloved customers, are faithfully built upon a solid foundation of values and principles.

Hand in hand with you, we will march on and continue to excel in times that demand new invention, innovation, and imagination. This is the legacy that Goldilocks has upheld for more than four decades, and will continue to sustain for future generations.

TONYBOY Florendo and Fernando Zobel

# Floirendo compares Zobel brothers to 'GQ' models

TONYBOY FLORENDO, of the Davao clan that just announced its partnership with Ayala in developing the 10-hectare Abreeza Mall in Davao, had a very good write-upper when he welcomed guests to the opening of the mall.

The grand event last May 12 was attended not only by Ayala executives and Ayala mall-op owners from Metro Manila, but also by the Zobel families led by Ayala Corp. chair and CEO Jaime Augusto Zobel and his brother, Ayala Corp. president and COO Fernando Zobel.

When his turn came to speak, after the Zobel brothers, Floirendo noted the presence of the good-looking brothers by saying that they looked like "GQ models." He added, "But they're taken."

He had a timeline—"You I'm not."

Floirendo is/was married to former Miss Universe Margie Marcos (Kennedy, now a very dynamic owner in arts and culture (she's one of the stalwarts behind Philippine Ballet Theater.

# New art—and a new love—for Marivic Rufino

By Margo C. Enriquez
Correspondent

"WHERE is the big date?"

That's the question posed by friends of artist, businesswoman, and reluctant Marie Victoria "Marivic" Rufino.

"June 7," she would reply.

"Are you getting married?"

She would clarify, "My exhibit in Madrid opens on that day."

"We're interested in the wedding, not the exhibit."

"I'm engaged, but as to when, where, and how, when the time is ripe, it will happen. The exhibit is more important to me. If I say so," Rufino would maintain.

THE VIBRANT colors of Rizzonelly in Red Moon Ballet is a happier phase

LAVENDER Dream evokes mysticism

## Beyond breadwinner

In a society where the arts are hardly appreciated, people are more interested in Rufino's personal life than her forthcoming exhibit at the Museo Nacional de Anthropologia, which celebrates Filipino Month. It also commemorates the celebration of Jose Rizal's 150th birthday and Philippine-Spanish ties.

It may be coincidental that the title is "Resonance," and her current status is engaged. The paintings have always reflected artist's inner consciousness. After the death of her husband, the late Bangko Sentral Gov. Rafael Buenaventura, Rufino's palette leaned towards deep blues. With her engagement to Argentinean diplomat Miguel Rodriguez, the colors have become more vibrant.

"I've become bolder, taken more risks in my painting," says Rufino. Earlier, Spanish painter Cesar Caballero invited her to join Spanish-Filipino painters Betsy Westendorp and Jovenal Santos to paint their own version of Spanish classics.

Rufino chose Luis Meléndez, which incorporated the princess and her mantill in acrylic glass overlaying her minor image in mixed media. "The effect was three-dimensional. The images were coming to life from the glass," she says.

On her artistic style, there is a strong influence of classical Chinese painting, such as the blurry-edges landscape contrasts dissolving into a hazy, and impressionistic rendition of nature. Her works focus on the the mystical attributes of the art, and how her psyche reflects the inner harmony between man and nature....hence the titles "Serenity," "Symphony," "Synergy," "Perpetual Purpose," "Inner Union," and "Romanza Forestal," the latter done in various shades of purple, a spiritual color. Another Chinese influence is the collaboration of poetry by Virgilio Almario and Marcus Kilates.

Rufino says her works in watercolor and mixed media are imbued with vibrancy and light, the images ranging from nocturnes and mimetic to avant-garde in broad strokes of violet, blue, gold, orange, lavender and pink. There is "Ethegen," which portrays poppies and sunflowers in sepia, green, orange, gold, and red.

"Passion Dream" is a recurring theme, which shows cypress trees in Italy in various shades of blue and green. "El Fuego del Corazon (Anatomy)" centers on a red-orange sky. One of the most mystical themes is the "El Ojo Divino (Divine Eye)," which reflects her introspective nature.

"I was almost trained. From the airplane window, the sun was draped like the eye of God. It was a powerful image that was in my mind for months. The colors are very strong," she says.

WITH Argentine diplomat and fiancé Miguel Rodriguez

Although she'd rather talk about her upcoming exhibit in Madrid, there's no denying that the artist/ businesswoman has found a 'twin soul' in her Argentine fiance

PAINTER Vincenta "Marivic" Rufino

## Twin souls

People head her works for their otherworldly quality. "They say there's something about them that makes them feel good. In such somebody's life is good enough for me."

"Sahara Dream" is infused with mist from the Sahara dunes. "Miguel spends time in the desert. Last year he brought sand, which is pink hued, cool for touch, and very fine, like talc."

Handsome figures importantly in her life now. Asked how love is at a mature age, she replies, "It's a companionship, but not the heart-stopping sensation of being ago. She's my twin soul. I didn't have intentions of getting attached. I thought the love life was over with [Nang, Dimensions] passing away."

Through a common friend, she met Rodriguez five years ago at her last exhibit at Hermanos Manilo. "I wasn't interested in meeting anyone. I was spending time with poets and writers. It took months before we 'went out,'" she recalls.

When she fractured her left foot, he would drive her here and escort her even to the ladies' room. A true gentleman, he would hold her arm to support her, thereby providing comfort. He brought her out of her recluse, taking her to diplomatic functions or to horseback riding sessions.

"Our friendship developed into an engagement for now. Beyond that, I'll see how it goes. It's like another step, but I'm taking things slowly," she says.

Every time there are questions about her romance, Rufino always brings back the conversation to her art. She credits Rodriguez of opening up in a family that frowned art as amateur. "People tend to collect what is valuable because of the artist's name. I was discouraged.

"I'm a struggling artist up to now, although I work in the family business and ventures into productions. But I don't earn from my art. It's there to express my connection with the Divine. It's my way of communicating spirituality."

Proceeds of her paintings go to her foundation, a center for abused women and street urchins.

"This may sound esoteric to someone who is not spiritual or into art. But that's the way I am. I have different facets, and what people see may not be me. They might see the façade. Deep within, I'm spiritual. That's what keeps my integrity. There may be madness in the world, but there's a part of me that remains whole. Because I've had the strong connection with the Divine, I've had many trials and upheavals, but the bond has kept me going."

EL OJO Divino (Divine Eye) inspired by a sunset view from the plane

# 'Can your dance stand alone?'

Guest teacher Hazel Sabas-Gower, whose environmental piece 'Green' will be staged tonight, begins by creating the movement, even before adding on the music

By Armelle S. Tayao

Hazel Sabas-Gower and Steps Dance Studio students

THINK of any kind of dance, and you'll play some music in your head. It could be heavy bass beats for hiphop; smooth, suave notes for jazz; or a light and dreamy tune for ballet.

That's how internationally renowned choreographer and Steps Dance Studio owners dancer and choreography guest teacher Hazel Sabas-Gower starts making a piece—she plays the music in her head. But in her head is where the melody ends, at least for a couple of sessions. Gower creates movements with her dancers without letting them hear what they're supposed to be dancing to.

"Only your dancers' bodies, emotions, lighting, sets. Can your dance stand alone?" she says.

It's a philosophy she's imbibed in her numerous compositions, and her latest work, "Green," is further testament to this philosophy. Performed by the prestigious Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet (CPYB) earlier this year, "Green" is a 10-minute ballet piece inspired by the environment.

The elements (Earth, Water, Air and Fire) divide the dance into four parts, with Air as the highlight. Gower is staging it tonight as part of Steps' 17th anniversary concert, 8 p.m., at the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

"It's a very challenging yet interesting piece," says Gower. "The pas de deux, the lifts, these are the climax of the piece." To emphasize the simplicity of nature, dancers perform in plain black bottoms and pink tights.

## Tribute to parents

The inspiration is Gower's tribute to her mother, a strong advocate of environmental conservation. The music is a tribute to her father and their common love of music.

Gower chose Johann Sebastian Bach as accompaniment to her choreography. Followed Galliano as a rather unconventional instrumentation for ballet—the accordion.

"You would think the accordion is loud, but it isn't," says Gower, who—like her own father—played the instrument. Richard Galliano played his accordion like he was playing a violin," Gower chose Galliano's work because her father, too, played the accordion.

For tonight's staging, Gower worked with eight Steps students and three professional male dancers from Ballet Manila, who have the height necessary to perform the pas de deux and lifts. The piece is also longer by 15 minutes, an adjustment Gower made to accommodate Steps managing director Sofia Zobel-Ehlers's request to add more of her students.

Ehlers and Gower are longtime friends who recommend her pal. When Ehlers heard of Gower's accomplishments abroad, she jumped at the chance and wanted her to teach for the summer. "It's hard to find choreographers who do this kind of work; teaching, use of classical ballet, but also the modern," says Ehlers. "I find that Hazel's work is so sophisticated that it makes the academic

REHEARSING "Green"

STEPS managing director Sofia Zobel-Ehlers and "Green" composer Hazel Sabas-Gower

Hazel Sabas-Gower and Steps Dance Studio students

look more professional."

First and foremost a dancer, Gower recounts her ballet training at an early age in the Philippines. Her first formal teacher was Felicitas "Tita" Eudaric, but it was former Ballet Philippines artistic director Alice Reyes who made Gower realize her talent as choreography.

She was around 16 then, but it wasn't until after finishing a two-year diplomas degree in Creative and Performing Arts at the University of the Philippines in Diliman that she decided to pursue choreography seriously. At age 26, even though she was dancing lead roles in different shows, Gower applied and was accepted into the New York University's (NYU) Tisch School of Arts to earn her master's degree. The diploma degree or DP was considered equivalent to a bachelor's when NYU saw her extensive background in dance.

"The program was so rigorous that you had to have a full ballet class and a full modern class every single day, back-to-back," says Gower. "Every time there was an opportunity to choreograph, I would grab my classmates and say, 'Let's do this piece. I was literally living in the studio."

After NYU, Gower's career took off. She's instructed in different universities and ballet companies—Ballet Lubbock, Ballet Memphis, UPDE, Texas Ballet Theater, Academy, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Texas Christian University, University of North Texas, Ballet Covet Campus...and has received awards and grants supporting her creative work.

"Green" came at a time when Gower was looking to create a piece she could leave behind as her "legacy." The piece isn't political, since that's more Sean Gower's style; it's more of a quiet, spiritual composition that "begs us to reflect in your."

"I want it to make us respect our mother Earth, the resources I'm going to work with," she says. "I want to be known as someone who left something in choreography that would make a difference."

It may be too soon to say exactly what difference the dance has made, but it's certainly made an impact on the 50-year-old choreographer and her dancers—like a good luck charm. "You know how things just come to you? That's what happened with 'Green'; after it, projects just coming in."

But the praises Gower scratches the most resounding have been those in the form of tears from a woman who saw the dance at an informal showing at CPYB.

"When you see someone tear up, it could be tears of joy or just a memory for me, that's enough."

"Green" will be staged at the CCP tonight, 8 p.m. as part of Steps' 17th anniversary concert.

# Oh's and ah's greet silver wedding anniversary rites

DR. PETER Manrao, eminent cardiac surgeon in Cebu, and his bride of 25 summers, Dr. Sophia Macaraeg-Manrao, celebrated their silver wedding anniversary last May 3, 4 p.m., at the Sacred Heart Parish. It was the same day, time and venue as their marriage 25 years ago.

Peter is the son of equally eminent surgeon Dr. Mike Manrao, and Soledad Thiel Manrao. They reside in Cebu. Sophia is the daughter of engineer Salvador Macaraeg and Rose Ancheta Macaraeg, who live in the USA.

Peter and Sophia have retained their youthful good looks. He is a health buff, working out daily at the gym of Casino Español, and participating in running events around the world.

Sophia may not practice but she does hold of endorsed, pathology, but keeps very busy raising the family being a civic leader, and giving time to the Hospital and Health Facility licensing section of the Department of Health office in Cebu.

The Manraos have been blessed with three children. Mikaela is a fashion analyst based in the USA. Peter Jr., Dodo to family and friends, is on his fourth year of nursing school. Angela at 20 is the baby in the family and on this occasion looked very pretty in a long gown and crown.

Jaime Piccarell

There were oh's and ah's from the congregation as Peter and Sophia marched up the aisle to the altar for their original wedding gowns, preserved all these years in blue silk paper. "I just had to change some of the buttons," Sophia said before the music played, as friends gathered to admire her.

### Balenciaga-trained couturier

The gown was one of the masterpieces of the late Cebuana couturier Dezie Bonviznes, whose prowess was legendary. In his youth he had trained with Balenciaga and other Paris designers. To him, creating clothes in Cebu was more a vocational hobby than a lucrative profession. Some grand dames have kept Dezie's virtue in their wardrobes.

After the mass and renewal of vows Sophia and Peter received congratulations well wishers at the Cebu Country Club, also where the original reception had been held. (Re-charged into a silvery draped catwalk and put the Dezie gown on a mannequin for everyone to admire at close range.)

Among those present were some of the original wedding sponsors. They included Fr. Francisco Larrazabal Jr. and his pretty wife Zeny, Dr. Teodulo Abena, and the Manila East courtesy of a free round-trip ticket from MNL.

AT THE CEBU Sacred Heart Parish, Peter and Sophia Manrao with their children, Angela and Paolo. The bride wore her original wedding gown created by Dezie Bonviznes 25 years ago.

and Rose Ann Juan, Dr. Hazel and Drs. Mila Tabordon, Lee Manrao Sandiego, Sodong and Nita Pelo, Dominador and Remedios Tenorio, and Guillermina Leocadio Ybiel who put some of her original ideas into action.

Months thought of having as many couples among family and friends renew their marriage vows on the occasion, and share the limelight. Among those were Edmund and Gina Manrao-Go, Marvin and Edna Macaraeg, Marvin and Ophie Macaraeg, Dr. Dan and Isobel Chavez, Jonathan and Corina Nuñez, Val and Benjamin Sandiego, who gifted the celebrants with a Santo Niño de Cebu image, Elmo and Anna Calang, Rudy and Marsha Sandiego, Bobby and Rosie Manrao, Scott and Joanne Layne, Jave and Rosie Sandiego.

Most aroused during the church rites and at the celebration was Rex, 87, Erasmo Javier SJ who officiated the ceremonies, just as he did on May 3, 1986.

# The card that makes you see the world

By Joe Rojo

Sure, a staycation doesn't cost a thing, but where's the fun in sitting around your living room sofa day after day, after day? Travel, on the other hand, opens you up to an exciting world of people, places, and events just waiting to be discovered. Money, of course, matters when you go out of town, but don't let it deprive you of the rewarding opportunities travel has to offer. More than the souvenirs you buy, it's the memories of that fun family outing or special trip for two that prove priceless.

As the world's local bank and Asia's strongest banking brand, HSBC understands the importance of traveling for leisure. Thus, when customers expressed their desire to travel more, HSBC listened, and came up with an incentive that will have you packing your bags and heading off to the airport in no time.

Through its valuable partnership with Cathay Pacific, HSBC's Platinum Visa cardholders can now see the world in the comfort and convenience befitting an elite group. Five charge slips of at least P10,000 each within an HSBC Platinum Visa cardholder's no-fee round trip ticket to Hong Kong, while 10 charge slips of at least P10,000 each will give the cardholder a free round trip ticket to Shanghai, Tokyo, Bangkok, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Saigon, and many other cities. Silver cardholder accumulates 10 charge slips of at least P10,000 each, be it she can enjoy the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand.

Thanks to HSBC's partnership with Cathay Pacific, travel becomes a more rewarding experience for Platinum Visa cardholders

Points in the Philippines are also available to HSBC Platinum Visacardholders. A P1,000 travel gift certificate from Cebu Pacific goes to cardholders who present five charge slips of at least P3,000 each. Meanwhile, a free, 3d bank-called knowage of one's choice or a 5-pack Via'M Ready Brew at Starbucks, or a P100 off on your next purchase at Cebu, 300 (excluding all SM retail affiliates), Chi Spa, Blue Water Day Spa, or Bench Fit Salon can be redeemed with charge slips of at least P2,000 each.

"Our customers and their needs are important to us, so we consistently strive to give them the best value by offering benefits that they really want. When you use your HSBC Platinum Visa for your everyday spending, you can easily and instantly collect rewards that you actually use. We've already told you about the great entertainment rewards in words, but now's your chance to see it for yourself. Starting today, you can earn some great rewards, including local travel options," said Bernette Tirol, HSBC's senior vice president and head of Personal Financial Services. "We've provided our customers with the freedom to choose from a wide range of benefits that they can actually use."

"While your HSBC Platinum Visa earning travel rewards has become so easy that flying to Hong Kong is as just for the day becomes a viable option for many," adds Tirol. "So, get your HSBC Platinum Visa credit card now and start earning those great rewards!"

For more information and/or to apply for your HSBC Platinum Visa, log on to www.hsbc.com.ph or call 89-8888.

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# THE SM KIDS COUNTRY COUTURE COLLECTION AT PHILIPPINE FASHION WEEK

Country-inspired denim clothes go to the city streets as the SM Kids Country Couture collection hits the runways of Philippine Fashion Week last May 14, 2011 at 2:30 PM at the ISMX Convention Center.

It's a whole blue world combining country-style charm and great style in four fun looks: the Blue and White Couture; rugged and playful Denim + Checks; soft and romantic Blues and Blooms; and the artsy and eclectic Country Mix, which layers denim pieces with checks and floral prints. The collection is available at the Children's Wear Department of all SM stores and the stylish shoes collection for her by the SM Suganda Shoes is available at the Children's Shoes Department in all SM stores.

**BLUE AND WHITE COUTURE.** A timeless classic combination. Paired with SM Suganda Shoes

**BLUES AND BLOOMS.** Denims and floral prints are key in the collection. Paired with SM Suganda Shoes

**DENIMS + CHECKS.** Sleeveless tee with denims and checks. Paired with SM Suganda Shoes

**COUNTRY MIX.** Floral prints, checks, and denims make a merry fashion mix. Paired with SM Suganda Shoes

www.smdepartment.com

DEPARTMENT STORE

Sunday LIFESTYLE

# Surprise—people don't want to be nosey about P-Noy's love life

From page C1

8—As President, he is a public figure and so everything he does or is his life, professional or personal, is "news" and will be covered by media. It comes with the territory.—**Oliver Lim Cruz**, president, Daniel's Limousine, publisher, Asian Image magazine

1—President Noy's love life should be respected, just like how we want ours to be, whether we are in media or ordinary citizens. We owe it to him as President to respect his personal affair. So I say I, being human being whether you're in media or a Filipino citizen.—**Pen Roque**, marketing executive

7—If I want to be nice to Noy and Y—if I want to be polite to—Virgie Ramos, the woman behind Twitch

3—People should just know enough to simply add a human or mortal dimension to the Office of the President. Once he is, properly developed and sensitive

6—When you take on a public position, your life becomes public. But with all the problems our country faces, there must be more important things aside from the President's personal life. If a publication can't do that, then they're confining news to gossip columns.—**PJ Bondoc**, photographer

8 at 5... They could come down here to say: Of course the public is interested! Of course we feel we are entitled to know. But media hype distracts from the life and death issues of the nation and intimidates the principal decision-maker in here on the President. Show some respect please!—**Conchita Ruano**, artist

3—Essential, but not many.—**Lydia Gordillo**, writer and cool book anchor

10—For I will not call it being nosy. It's due right of the citizens to know, his being a public figure, more so him being the President.—**Louie Cruz**, the off-the-shoulder party organizer

8—It can affect his performance as a public official, as only to that extent.—**Joey Ortiz**, executive

A—He should give him some room for private time.—**Bonjin Robinos**, PR practitioner

8—Media must get the news out, but to a limit.—**Taj Tajan**, batgirl, boutique hotel proprietor

8—He is a public figure, but his love life is not as important as the affairs of the state.—**Elvira Amarela**, section editor

3—He should be left alone and given a little distance.—**Gigi Perez**, housewife

5—Because it is personal and none of anyone's business.—**Candy Cruz**, business executive

5—The media should know if it's a matter of national security, but not to the point of invading his privacy.—**Bukoo Manabolaolo**, artist

Even though the public has the right to make its leaders accountable even with what they do in their private lives, that right shouldn't be abused and must have its limits. Those who go beyond that right of demanding accountability would be nothing but a bunch of rumor-mongerers seeking gratification for their malice.—**Daniel Palma Tayona**, visual artist, creative director of Center for Art, New Ventures, and Innovation Development

As long as Noynoy tries to become the best President, the public shouldn't care about his private life!—**Edwin Wilhelmina**, artist/top observationist

Kahit sino gusto niya, basta mapaniniwalaan niya ang Pilipinas sa mahusay paraan, walang pakialam ang publiko. Kindi na man itong Dyos para magtig pero. At ang sa, bastag sa rin mahalaan sa mga tanong. Pakialaman na lang niti kung pulpol ang gina-gawa.—**Harley del Rosario**, one of Asia's 30 Most Exciting Young Artists, 2006

I guess the public could only be aware if that particular slice of his private life would affect delicate decisions he would have to make in running the country. I mean, we've got to respect the man's privacy, mostly like as we want our own privacy respected. But still, the President has got to consider what others might think or say, especially when crossing the line on matters of national interest.—**Jhan Lorena**, physician and visual artist

PEN Roque

VIRGIE Ramos

LOUIE Cruz

RIBBON CUTTING From left, TF cabb Isabelle Daza, Mandaluyong Councilor Alex Sta. Maria, Mandaluyong Councilor Francisco Estrada, Fr. David Concepcion, Ms. Felicidad Sy, Mandaluyong Councilor Edward Hontiveros and SM Supermarket President Herbert Sy

# New SM supermarket raises the bar for gourmet shopping

FRENCH pork chop, steak burger, cheese cordon bl... RM... make...dor... range of choices is bewildering, you still need at least half a day to scour the merchandise.

That's the SM gourmet supermarket that opened last Thursday on the ground floor of Megamall A.

The 23-year-old SM Supermarket now has a gourmet supermarket for high-end customers, specialty food, and health food.

The minute you walk in you feel fresh. Aisles unroll you. The supermarket's layout and medium height shelves give an uncluttered view of the whole store no matter where you stand. There are bright-colored signs, ample lighting and spacing between aisles for comfortable shopping.

Its fresh section is a garden of colors and choices of fruits and vegetables.

There's a good variety of meat cuts, frozen meats and delis, including fresh burgers and Chicago gourmet steaks.

NEW ON H1

# Staying forever young

By Chin-Melchor Hechanova
Cover Feature

I've often wondered why God took Fenny instead of me 44 years ago

KEEP HOT is Grow Old as How to Grow Old With as Much Grace as You Can Muster? These two phrases were supposed to be the title of my article.

When you're 60, you still have some of the look-over pull of youth and a few lecture wrinkles. When you apply for a Senior Citizen's Card, you'll get so excited about the discounts the card gave you now.

But when you're 70, you are a foregone having. Your skin suddenly becomes dry and wrinkled, your upper arms become flabby, your tummy gets bigger with fat, and surprisingly, you are always tired.

That's food for the invention of body dye—now very few white-haired ladies are seen at parties. Have fitting around the house and you don't even have to move at least 10 times from room to room.

Our current average aging is the best thing to do is accept it and count your blessings.

I am blessed with six daughters who have given me 11 grandchildren but only one precious granddaughter.

My youngest daughter with Penny Bañaderos was only one year old when he died so suddenly, but she barely has been bringing homes to our family just to be sure!

In 1993, Penny was a TOMMY award and in 2010, Gino was a TOMMY award.

Not only that—my eldest, who is a twin, got married at 20, just as I did, and her son has made her a grandmother and he is a grandfather.

Together in the Highlands and that was a most memorable time for the group. Going up the cable cars and seeing the many sacred greenery all around was a vision to be cherished.

### Why not?

Seven years ago we met community in Blue Ridge, all the senior citizens banded together into a studying club. The members could not think of a name until one day little lady suggested "Forever Young Club."

As members of this newsletter designs that was too covert and debatable title, but the rest said "Why not? That's exactly what we want to be for a long time!"

So we became the Forever Young Club of Blue Ridge B and started to get pictures without our heads in.

We started off humorously—we were not homosexuals. That did not seem a perfect choice. Then we visited the National Museum and later the Metropolitan Museum during which a 90-year-old member supposed to drop in a month's minutes on my last bit candle, and those small hand who went with her had fun.

The group became hungry so we always include lunch-outs in the HOP system (Gunyang Kanyang Resaul).

Now the Mother's Day event we ate in a restaurant—a beautiful place with a scenic setting—we had our all the house until Heaven of the Philippines. Next we went to Avalon Zoo which was a wonderful place to recommend to your children and grandchildren to see.

Then someone said why don't we go out of town—so I scheduled a trip to

### Help others

We also made some trips to help others—like our trip to Golden Acres to visit the homeless aged whom we donated blankets and clothes to people who had lost the grace of God, could be just like us.

Then we visited a little place in Lucena which is not often visited. It is called the ANRO and filled with physically or mentally handicapped children, convicted guilty, incapacitated, etc.) who were eager to welcome people to their home. We brought couple gifts of prayer so they would not be left out and we constantly prepared ourselves for a peaceful Christmas season. Then we put on our red gowns and put on our dancing shoes to show our neighbors in the barangay hall our dancing skills.

After three years, a smaller group went to Ocean Park to try to revive the camaraderie of before.

Here, we, senior citizens have weekly or early Saturday morning sessions with Mahesh exercises and a modified line dancing. This year we will get back our senior citizens' card with new dynamic leaders at the forefront.

We must only remember that time is running out. Very soon God may call us—so we must use our time wisely and feel inside if we lived things of This world. So when we go to Heaven and our Father asks us, "What have you done in your life?" I'll be able to answer, "At least as I could...I've tried to help others who needed my help."

I've made a little prayer of my own, which I hope most senior citizens will adopt.

Give me the grace to be useful to at least one person in my life (who is, of course, my husband, Tito Cesar.) Never even become useless.

Let me be touched and appreciated.

Let me bring love and more joy into daily living.

I've often wondered why God took Fenny instead of me 44 years ago. Surely, would have been an excellent provider for the Family.

Here I've been trying to get rid of all my properties and I have done so since the Bible says it is easier for a camel to pass through an eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into heaven. He's not OUT in my name I have given to the Rotary Kalinga Inc. the homeless squatters.

I've done my best to be a good mother and brother is nothing more I can do. If any style of mothering does not seem motivating enough, what will I do with the hours of worrying about my children and their future?

If I tried to stay healthy, I must not worry excessively because God will take care of my children. I have lifted them up to God. Therefore in God's gentle hands now!

A wise man once said: The best gift you can give your children is work—a solid foundation of good values—and courage to stand up for them when even they fall short.

I've carried my cross of mothering, although it is such a light, flimsy cross compared to yours, Lord Jesus. I will not complain about my cross anymore as long as "this will always be beside me as I carefully walk those last few miles of my life with You—only You.

CHIN'S MELCHOR HECHANOVA

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## Sta. Rita de Cascia, saint of the impossible

I WAS one of many devotees looking up to Sta. Rita de Cascia as her love cut on top of the canvas discovered months and was on the left inside of the altar during the 6 p.m. Mass at San Agustin Church last May 22, her feast day.

Mr Ehard, Orlan Perdita, the Antwan designers, has been decorating the church since 1976. For the past several years, Orlan has been having Pastor Reden Celester to do it for him.

As there we were praying to Sta. Rita de Cascia, the saint of the impossible, Father Celester followed his dismal Presidential Theorem's address that he make a devotion to this saint. Orlan has found his life changed. He has stopped being a worrywart. "Sir, Rita will take care of her," he said. "Rita has shared 67 years old and I am not sick. My business is good."

Orlan told me that he has become more prayerful. Kneeling in front of the Blessed Sacrament at the adoration Chapel of the National Shrine of Sacred Heart almost everyday, he finds himself very much at peace.

### Who is Sta. Rita de Cascia?

If St. Jude Thaddeus is known as the patron of desperate cases, Sta. Rita de Cascia is the saint of the impossible. Then Dr. Sita, an Hebrew, an obstetrician-gynecologist of HMRI, found out in 1981 when her baby boy was diagnosed suffering from a rare disease of the heart and lungs. She was only given two weeks to live.

Her Gloria went to San Agustin Church with her baby and offered him to Sta. Rita de Cascia. The boy lived although he was in a wheelchair most of his life. She died in age 47 during cancer surgery.

Gerardo Silva suffered from breast cancer. But giving up, she would visit Sta. Rita at San Agustin Church, before chemotherapy. Now, she is on remission and I saw her last May 22 during the Mass.

So, Rita de Cascia became popular as the saint to run to by battered women. She was a battered woman herself, until her husband converted. He prayed to God to take her sons, instead of them committing murder by avenging the death of their father. When she was all alone, she applied to be accepted as a religious of San Agustin, but she was refused several times, until she was finally accepted. The devotion to Sta. Rita is spread all over the world including Florence and Cascia in Italy.

### Relics of St. Philomena

The commemoration of the discovery of the holy relics of St. Philomena was held at the Most Holy Redeemer Church in Mandaluyong, Quezon City where one can find the shrine of the saint.

Parish priest, Fr. Cliff Bagtikilan said Mass with members of the Universal Living Rosary of St. Philomena present.

This saint's relics were discovered on May 24, 1802 after 1,500 years of being buried in the Catacombs of St. Priscilla in Rome.

There also, set together, found the remains, and on them was an inscription which seemed to be: "Pax Tecum Filumena". It means "peace to you, Philomena. The letters were in red paint and surrounded with Christian symbols. After a little study, it was realized that these also had been disentangled, so that because they were put in place at too great haste, or because someone not so familiar with Latin had laid them in wrong order.

### Compatible blood

The following day, when the more elaborate ornamental chest was found within the burial place of this, faithfulness was shown as well when some crystal vials were appointed to be compatible blood. It was undoubtedly blood which had been collected at the death of the martyr, according to the custom of the Christians during the persecutions, and placed with the remains as a remembrance to love deaths by martyrdom.

This blood was honored from broken pieces of the vase to which it adhered, and was carefully placed in a crystal vase. There present, among whom were men of great learning, were amazed to see that their little particles of blood, as seen as they fell into the urn, glittered like true melted gold or silver, or those like diamonds and precious jewels, or, again, were resplendent in colors of the rainbow. The extraordinary phenomenon continues at present day.

Those who wish to be members of this Living Rosary may write Universal Living Rosary Associal Inc at 430 Illinois St., Quezon City. You will be given a decade of the Rosary to recite to redeem it with members.

SAINT Philomena

STA. RITA de Cascia, saint of the impossible

ORIGINAL Portrait

all over the world reviving the same decade.

### Our Lady of All Nations

Upa Archbishop Ramon Arguelles will officiate the consecrated Mass honoring Our Lady of All Nations on the "Feast of Prayers" on June 2, 4 p.m., at the Holy Family Chapel in Nyss Hall, Greenhills. Rosary will be recited before the Blessed Sacrament. Auxi Kathleen Castro will give a Marian talk at 5:45 p.m. Procession of colors and Holy Mass is at 6:45 p.m. Organized by Cenacle for Peace Asia and Rufina Hotels.

### Dawn procession

Fr. Faustino Mora, parochial vicar of the Archdiocesan Shrine of the Roman Sedes de Gaia, said that the dawn procession on the first Saturday of the month will be on June 4, 4:30 a.m. The Shrine has been holding the procession several times for almost a year now. Lauds are chanted after followed by Morning Prayer. Holy Mass is celebrated at 6 a.m.

The efficacy of the intercession of "Mater Dei" was confirmed by Former Ambassador to the Vatican Leticia Ramos-Shahani who told our that she was born as Rosario and grew up here. She tells herself "as Rosario." Fr. Sonny de Claro who is the parish priest said the rite of the shrine is a special devotion to "Maria Gaia". He will celebrate a special Mass on May 31 at 6 p.m. The public is invited.

## Follow your passion

By Fr. Tito Caluag
Cover Feature

LAST Thursday I sat with three young couples at LAMP-CBC during their dinner after Ad Priest's 40th day Mass. The conversation eventually centered on choices. What course to pursue? How to balance studies and their careers?

They had the difficult challenge of choosing between going for further studies or taking advantage of career trends being offered him. The others are exploring how to start pursuing a degree in music. The third is enrolled in a business course but he thinks Mass Com is most fruitful.

Father then asked, soon, right before I left my office in MCC-CBN, I talked to another talented who was to take part in the Digital project of collecting ways for the morning 1.9 million kindergarten students. It was all so inspiring to hear his story—how he chose to finish his elementary career, but how he also continues to remember his promise to his late father and his mother that he will resume and finish his studies.

There was, I think, one underlying question behind all their stories, their concerns. How struggles and challenges how does one make the right choice? Or simply, how does one make a good decision?

Follow your passion and make conscious choices. These will make for good choices—maybe not the 'right' choices all the time, but good choices.

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Father asks us, "What have you done in your life?" I'll be able to answer, "At least as I could...I've tried to help others who needed my help."

I've made a little prayer of my own, which I hope most senior citizens will adopt.

Give me the grace to be useful to at least one person in my life (who is, of course, my husband, Tito Cesar.) Never even become useless.

Let me be touched and appreciated.

Let me bring love and more joy into daily living.

I've often wondered why God took Fenny instead of me 44 years ago. Surely, would have been an excellent provider for the Family.

Here I've been trying to get rid of all my properties and I have done so since the Bible says it is easier for a camel to pass through an eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into heaven. He's not OUT in my name I have given to the Rotary Kalinga Inc. the homeless squatters.

I've done my best to be a good mother and brother is nothing more I can do. If any style of mothering does not seem motivating enough, what will I do with the hours of worrying about my children and their future?

If I tried to stay healthy, I must not worry excessively because God will take care of my children. I have lifted them up to God. Therefore in God's gentle hands now!

A wise man once said: The best gift you can give your children is work—a solid foundation of good values—and courage to stand up for them when even they fall short.

I've carried my cross of mothering, although it is such a light, flimsy cross compared to yours, Lord Jesus. I will not complain about my cross anymore as long as "this will always be beside me as I carefully walk those last few miles of my life with You—only You.

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GREENS at The Salad Bar

FRESH fruits

VEGETABLES

# New SM supermarket raises the bar for gourmet shopping

From page B9

The sausage area has all kinds, including Debrecziner, Cabanossi, Weisswurst. The cheese section is just so good.

Dish suggestions are posted to help you plan your meals.

The Read To Go section includes a row of fresh juices, from sugar cane juice to fresh milk.

FROZEN MEATS: OBLIS

SHORT RIBS

For the health buffs, there are green apples, grapes, kiwi fruit, salmon, artichokes, asparagus, banana, cauliflower, tomatoes, turnips, oranges, grapefruit, white corn, yellow corn, red and yellow tomatoes, pumpkins, bell peppers.

The store has two aisles of imported spices, sauces and condiments.

SM Supermarket is a member of the SM Food Retail Group which operates SM Supermarket, SM Hypermarket and Savemore Market.

*For more information, please call Aileen De Guia at 9029-3014/59.*

SALAD FRUIT

CHEESE

# FESTIVE NIGHTS AT THE PIAZZA

Whether you're enjoying a casual breakfast date or sizzling things up over fine dining, you can take your pick at the different events happening only at Venice Piazza in McKinley Hill, Fort Bonifacio.

Morning people can opt to join the fun runs and marathons then cool down with a delicious breakfast at the different cafes, coffee shops and lounges at The Piazza. If a chill morning is more your type, you can also stroll around the very laid-back ambiance of McKinley Hill then settle down with a hot cup of coffee to keep you warm during cold mornings. Afterwards you can enjoy a traditional Italian experience everyday with the pigeon feeding at 7am-8am and 4pm-5pm

Latina Nights every Wednesday at 8pm. Wind down with Ballondo Sotto La Stella (Ballroom Dancing Under the Stars) every Thursday at 8:30pm. Walk down music memory lane in 80s Nostalgia at The Piazza every Saturday at 8:30 pm.

For the evening bats, there's a ton of things lined up for you. Take a relaxing dinner while being serenaded by Johnoy Danao in Unplugged Sessions every Tuesday at 8pm.

Take out your dancing shoes and join the Bella-

Then enjoy Opera Nights with the whole family every Sunday at 7:30pm.

Take part in these events and you'll never run out of things to do with that special someone.

VENICE PIAZZA AT MCKINLEY HILL

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL THE MEGAWORLD CONCIERGE AT 709-0888 OR 0917-8380111. YOU CAN ALSO LIKE FACEBOOK.COM/VENICEPIAZZA OR GET QUICK UPDATES BY FOLLOWING TWITTER.COM/VENICEPIAZZA.

# SM MEN'S FASHION @
PHILIPPINE
FASHION WEEK

BACK TO SCHOOL

# All roads lead to National Book Store

By Maribel D. Ildefonso

It's that time of the year again when parents and students rush to get the best deals in books and school supplies. Tuition and other school fees have skyrocketed in the past years and parents always try to find ways to save on their budget.

For over 60 years, National Book Store has been providing affordable yet quality supplies and books to students. The company's pioneers took some lessons what students need inside and out. Its extras can be limited as that of the school. National Book Store is every student's partner all throughout his or her school days, from nursery to college. It's part of everyone's life.

All more than 125 branches of National Book Store nationwide are busy stocking until early June for the preparations for school opening is a year-round affair for the people behind the bookstore.

"We are always on the look out for new items and products that our customers may be looking for or are interested in," said Trina Almiñana, Regional Manager of National Book Store.

Quality and cost always considered when coming for the products that students may need in school. They have to be reminding that even elementary students can buy from their own allowances instead of asking their parents to buy for them.

"National Book Store carries the most complete selection of school supplies for back to school," Almiñana said. "The wide of thousands of items also ensures that NBS is a one-stop shop when it comes to shopping for the season."

By end of April every year, the display area of each branch is already filled with different kinds of notebooks. Pens, pencils, and papers are all strategically displayed where customers can easily grab one when everything is already getting scarce.

There is always something for everyone. There are parents who opt for durability and buy items that can last for the next two or three school years. If parents are on a budget, National Book Store has something for them too but the items, although inexpensive, are still of quality products.

National Bookstore also opened a new section this time for office needs. The Silver Station carries office equipment like computers, laptops, printers, scanners and office furniture such as tables, chairs and filing cabinets. Parents who are looking for the right furniture for their child's study area can always go to the Silver Station and find the perfect equipment and accessories.

"Shopping for school supplies is more than just comparing prices," Almiñana explained. "Perhaps more importantly, you need to look for good value. Check labels and make sure you are buying quality products from reputable stores."

### Safety standards

Aware of the harmful items that are coming out in the market, National Book Store only distributes supplies from companies they believe in.

"We and our vendors follow all guidelines and regulations the Departments of Trade and Industry and the Bureau of Food and Drugs have prepared," she said.

National Book Store has been in the business since your grandparents' school days which makes it an expert not only on the needs of students but also of the things that are good or bad for them. It methodically observes the behavior and the products they sell. The company will not carry a product just because it is cheap or is claimed to be of high quality. That is one of the things that distinguishes National Book Store from other stores.

Books are also made affordable for the students, as purchased local books especially in the fields of medicine and engineering can be quite expensive. The significantly lower prices that these book suppliers are sold at are a real help to students or parents on a tight budget.

Almiñana also shared a few tips for parents to maximize the time and budget when shopping.

• "If you shop early. This will help you avoid the rush and have more time to shop leisurely.

• Bring a shopping list. That way, you won't forget any items that you have to buy for the season.

• Get a copy of the National Book Store magalogue. You can take one home and browse through the different products inside to make sure your back to school shopping list is complete.

• Always check for promos to get the best deals. For example, 3 of the exclusive packs that NBS is offering this back to school season are: (1) You can get a McDonald's Carry-All for FREE for every single-receipt purchase worth P1,000 with any participating product with the "N" Sticker. (2) Citibank cardholders also get a FREE Mini ready-to-drink bear pack with every P800 purchase using your Citibank credit card.

A Hologram card that one of the biggest problems and frustrations that parents face every year is the difficulty of finding everything they need under one roof. "Only National Book Store carries the most complete selection of items of the finest commercial locations, here it also offers the best val. so all in a one-stop shop for the back to school season."

CLOTHES AND ACCESSORIES COURTESY OF THE MANY CROSSWALK

## Donate a school kit through Project Aral

NATIONAL Book Store is committed to being an education partner of parents and schools to help give our kids a proper education. But in efforts do not end with providing quality books and materials to its loyal customers.

Since 2005, as National Book Store wants to encourage reading in children, the National Book Store Foundation has been assisting economic schools, day care centers and non-governments organizations nationwide by providing them good quality reading materials through a mobile library project and permanent donations of books. Furthermore, the Foundation also initiates "Project Aklat," an annual Christmas campaign to gather book donations for the above-mentioned library projects.

However, one of the most telling incidents that the Foundation volunteers have encountered took place in an Aeta village in Antipolo Province. After asking what can the village needed aside from books, the community volunteers requested the Foundation for a pencil sharpener because the over 100 students of the school had to share a single sharpener for all their needs.

This incident has given birth to "Project Aral" which aims to gather school supplies such as notebooks, pens, pencils, sharpeners and erasers to meet our children's most basic school needs. Local National Book Store customers may also participate in the program by donating a school kit or any National Book Store brand for only P25.

In the span of two years, "Project Aral" has already gathered and donated 300,000 kits to deserving schools, institutions and students nationwide from as far as Cagayan to the north to Sultan Kudarat in the south.

With the success of Project Aral, the National Book Store Foundation believes that it has not only achieved its goal to raise needed school materials, but it has also brought much comfort and inspiration for children to come in school.

This back to school season, you can help send a child to school by donating a "Project Aral" kit for less than P25.

Each specially marked Mongol Crayons entitles you & your child to a fun learning experience at an exclusive Gymboree Art Class.

Present your specially marked Mongol Crayons at any Gymboree branch and get:

- A free Mongol Coloring Kit
- 75% off on a Gymboree Art Class
- Bonding time with your family!

Visit your nearest Gymboree outlet for more details.

*Promo runs from May 2 - June 30, 2011 (for Metro Manila only)
*Redemption period: May 1 - August 31, 2011 | 9am-6pm
*One class per child

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# Book Store

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ABC Writing and Coloring Book

on facebook and

# Free Comic Book Day in Bestsellers

Graphic novel fans were treated to a day of free comic books, sketches, and more last Saturday, May 21, at Bestsellers in Robinsons Galleria.

Amazing Spiderman, Captain America and Thor, and Young Justice & Batman Brave and Bold comic books, among others were distributed to some 250 event attendees absolutely free! Those who purchased graphic novels – not only in Bestsellers, but in any National Book Store nationwide – enjoyed a 20% discount on select local and imported comic titles. Not only that, customers got a raffle coupon to win a limited edition Apple iPad signed by V for Vendetta co-creator David Lloyd. The winner will be announced in NBS' facebook page.

Top Filipino graphic novel artists in the country such as Harvey Tolibao, Carlo Pagulayan, Kajo Baldisimo, Stephen Segovia, and Ariel Padilla also generously gave away free sketches and signed books.

This event was mounted in partnership with Sketchpad Studios to promote NBS' comic zone located in eight branches across Metro Manila. Previously, similar events were held in Power Plant Mall, Alabang Town Center, and Trinoma.

# National Book Store Opens Seven New Branches

NBS Director Socorro Ramos with Br. Gus Boquiz at the opening of NBS De La Salle – Dasmariñas.

National Book Store, the country's most complete and most convenient bookstore, recently opened the doors of 7 new branches – Ateneo, Bestsellers SM Lee Plaza, De La Salle – Dasmariñas, Fortaleza Colonnade, One Greenhills, SM Masinag and Work Station Alabang Town Center.

These new stores hold the same qualities that has made National Book Store a household name. An extensive selection of merchandise from books to school supplies and office equipment are available at these new stores. Services such as high quality photocopying, printing, gift-wrapping and laminations are also offered.

True to the company's commitment to provide the most complete assortment of products for Filipinos, NBS offers the special order service for customers who are looking for books or other items that may not be readily available in the store, such as rare titles, large office equipment, seasonal products, and the like. Customers can inquire at the customer service counter or browse the Special Order page at www.nationalbookstore.com for more information.

# Moleskine Limited Edition Le Petit Prince Now Available at National Book Store!

In its latest limited edition notebook, Moleskine commemorates one of the greatest books in history – The Little Prince.

Written by Antoine de Saint-Exupery, The Little Prince is the story of an aviator who crashes in the Sahara desert where he meets the Prince. As the aviator learns the story of the Prince, the reader meets a series of fantastic characters and is inspired by subtle insights into human nature. The novella was originally published in 1943 and has become one of the most beloved and bestselling books of all time. It has been translated into more than 180 languages and has sold more than 80 million copies worldwide.

The Little Prince limited edition Moleskine features a cut out scene from the story tucked away in the rear cover available in selected National Book Store outlets. Visit the Moleskine flagship store at NBS branches Vista the Mezzanine flagship store at NBS Greenhill 1 for the most complete selection of Moleskine products in the Philippines.

"As a reward, my secret about…"

Each Le Petit Prince special edition comes with a customized cover, paper band and an inside cover with notebook pocket. The pocket size notebook includes an ivory paper for the drawing of the Prince entering a globe-shaped cut-out of the Prince enjoying a breakfast of the story. A customized "In case of loss" "perpetual earner" on his home planet and the large message reads "In case of loss, return to planet…" and also notebook includes a 3D landscape where the Prince meets the fox and tames him.

The Moleskine Limited Edition The Little Prince is

# Pacific Rims Trade Paperback Edition Now Available!

Pacific Rims is available in National Book Store for P395

As American journalist Bale Bartholomew discovered, Filipinos are famous for their unparalleled devotion to basketball. A Fulbright scholar and self-confessed basketballlover, Bartholomew spent three years in Manila to witness firsthand the against-all-odds passion of Filipinos for the sport.

This journey eventually led to the release of his bestselling book, Pacific Rims, a western chronicle of lived experience filled with observational details about Filipino basketball. The book highlights his unforgettable immersions with the Alaska Aces which provided him a more in-depth account of professional basketball, the PBA and the unregulated hoops mania in the country.

Pacific Rims has gained nothing but glowing reviews from readers and critics alike after it was launched in August of last year. Recently, Bartholomew was able to take a break from his hectic travel schedule to take part in the the worldwide premiere of the trade paperback version at Bestsellers Robinsons Galleria. The event was attended by about 100 people, who all enjoyed the privilege of having their copies signed by no less than Bartholomew himself. Tony dela Cruz of the Alaska Aces was also spotted at the event to express his support to the author.

Hosted by Sandra Ramos-Padilla, NBS merchandising director for books, the program consisted of a short interview with Bale and an open forum, where-in fans got their chance to ask the author anything under the sun – from his current work to what he looks forward to when visiting the Philippines (spaghetti from a local fast food chain, he quipped).

National Book Store

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# ENTERTAINMENT

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Text us your feedback (inquirer not sure sign by message is ent.)

## 'Bourne' in Manila

OSCAR-nominated screenwriter and director Tony Gilroy has chosen Manila as location for "The Bourne Legacy"—the next installment in the popular action franchise that previously starred Matt Damon. Film Development Council of the Philippines head Brocka Santos said the country landed other Asian countries as location for the film. "It's the biggest Hollywood production to shoot here since 'Apocalypse Now,'" said Santos. Gilroy will shoot 45 percent of the film in Manila. The latest "Bourne" superimp bills Rachel Weisz and Oscar nominee Jeremy Renner. —Bayani San Diego Jr.

## Coco's decade

### Actor hopes to bridge the wide divide between indie and mainstream

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga—It was a homecoming of sorts for Coco Martin.

The actor, who grew up in Novaliches, traces his roots to Pampanga. "My parents are from Dakodoc," he said.

His breakthrough film, Brillante Mendoza's "Masahista," was partly shot in Pampanga, too.

It was hardly surprising that Martin took a break from the hectic tapings of his ABS-CBN soap, "Minsan Lang Kung Maging," to

## On the verge of nervous breakdown

By the Entertainment staff

BIG BOSS noticed that something was amiss with Penny Ikan.

If PSY career is taking forever to soar, BB thinks it's because of the girl's erratic behavior. He suspects PS has serious mental issues.

But why isn't anyone intervening? "No one from PSY's camp dares to tell her to see a psychiatrist," said a mole.

Her handlers are ignoring the telltale signs that PS is on the verge ... nor of meltdown, but of a major nervous breakdown.

Problem is, PS is considered a cash cow and revealing her weaknesses might spell financial disaster for those who are depending on her.

### Mama knows best

Beautiful Star has realized that her mom was right all along.

ON THE VERGE A2

# Miley Cyrus at MOA June 18

AMERICAN actress/pop singer Miley Cyrus performs live on June 18 at the SM Mall of Asia open grounds. The concert is part of Cyrus' Asian tour which opened in April and has visited South and South America.

The 18-year-old singer-songwriter was discovered on the Disney Channel TV sitcom "Hannah Montana" and went on to record songs for the soundtracks "Hannah Montana" (2006) and "Hannah Montana 2/Meet Miley Cyrus" (2007).

In 2007, she signed with Hollywood Records and did the likes of Herbie Tate, in which she performed as herself and in character as Hannah Montana. A year later Cyrus released her first solo album, "Breakout."

She started her film career as the voice of Penny in the animated film "Bolt." In 2009 she also starred her role as Miley Stewart/Hannah Montana in "Hannah Montana: The Movie."

Her studio album, "Can't Be Tamed," was released in 2010 and promoted a new dance pop sound.

For prime seats at the MOA concert, call 0917-8152839.

### Kylie at the Big Dome

Kylie Minogue performs on July 5 at the Araneta Coliseum.

The 42-year-old singer-songwriter started as a child actress on TV before launching her career as a recording artist in 1987. Her first singles, "Locomotion," spent seven weeks at No. 1 on the Australian singles chart.

Her 1988 debut album, "Kylie" and the single "I Should Be So Lucky" both reached No. 1 in the United Kingdom, and for the next two years all her singles were in the British Top 10.

After four albums, however, sales declined and in 1992 she established herself as an independent performer. Her next single, "Confide in Me," went to No. 1 in Australia and was a hit in several European countries in 1994. A duet with Nick Cave, "Where the Wild Roses Grow," earned critics' praise.

She was diagnosed with breast cancer in May 2005. After surgery and chemotherapy treatment, she bounced back with "Showgirl: The Homecoming Tour." In 2007 her ninth studio album "X" was released. In 2009 she went on her first concert tour of the United States and Canada, and the following year released her 11th studio album, "Aphrodite."

### Free concert

The Italian Embassy, the Cultural Center of the Philippines and the Philippine Italian Association present musician Eugenio Bennato in a lecture demo of Taranta Power—a movement dedicated to the revival of the tarantella, the thousand-year-old ritual dance from the South of Italy...on June 1, 2 p.m. at the CCP Little Theater.

A free concert follows on June 2, 8 p.m. at Herbert Walk in Greenbelt 5, Ayala Malls, Makati.

KYLIE Minogue

MILEY Cyrus

## Coco's . . .

From page J1

animal the Pampanga leg of Sinong Bisikan—where Sir Marc, Direk Jon Santos' "Sisa" and Mendoza's "Tirador," were part of the lineup.

Although he has attained every inch the actor's dream—mainstream stardom—he doesn't compare himself to other celebrities or aspire to be one.

"My job is to act, whether to indie or mainstream. Mine," he said. "Dapat walang divide between indie and mainstream. We are all part of the same industry."

He admitted that he had to go through the ups-and-downs before gaining widespread acceptance in the biz: "I experienced rejection numerous times. I didn't get good breaks on TV at first time, most moviegoers still looked down on independent films as cheap or gay-themed."

But he was able to overcome these challenges "with the help and guidance of local filmmakers (mentors) Bong Lee and Ed Instrella, and other people I look upon."

COCO Martin with Bi Bakle' Directions

Mendoza recalled that Martin was a keen student on the set. "He would join my brainstorming sessions with writers. He would study the cinematographer's job while shooting."

### The 'indie way'

When Martin co-produced and co-directed "Boy," he said he shot the documentary scenes because he knew how to do it "the indie way."

Indie actors, he said, are truly committed to their craft: "Money is not that big, but I came to know the real meaning of dedication and professionalism. I learned never to be late and to get along with coworkers. I do indie films for the sense of fulfillment and to enhance my goals as an artist."

Martin's attainment of mainstream success was capped recently by his nomination in the list of the "Decade's Best Performers" by the critics' group's Urian, along with Gina Pareño and Cherry Pie Picache.

"I asked myself why I was included in the list when I consider myself a newcomer. I was told that it was not about how long you've been in the industry, but because of the movies you've made that have been recognized here and abroad," said Martin.

At the awards show, his voice cracked when he dedicated his Urian Decade's Best trophy to his grandmother Matilde: "My lola and I always talk about my work at home. I was too shy to thank her to my past acceptance speeches. But this time I decided to mention her because I might not get the same chance again."

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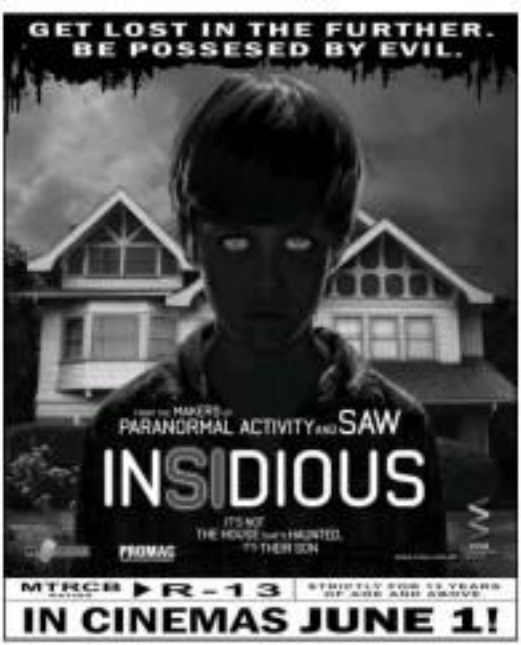

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INSIDIOUS

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PROMAC

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IN CINEMAS JUNE 1!

# On the verge of nervous breakdown

From page E

JD defied her family and hooked up with ex Dreamwiz Guy.

Everyone advised JD to proceed with caution...but she was young, foolish and blinded by love.

JD fought with mom constantly, but after CEU yanked her badly, she ran to her family for help.

To ease normalizers, Hooligal daughter had to eat humble pie.

### Synchronized

Even the most jaded backstage rumbler couldn't ignore it.

Nine dinner for sweethearts was ferried their "relationship" separately in shows aired by their respective home studios at the same time.

Mole gasped: "Is this a well-planned campaign or what?"

Nine was when privacy was trotted out for biz. But now everyone acts as his or her own showbizzer.

### Happily expecting

Newlyweds Bimbo Herrera and Oyo Boy are happily expecting. "I'm six weeks pregnant," Bimbo confirmed in a statement last week. "Yahoo! God is really good. More to come!"

Oyo told the bouncers: "Me didn't expect the good news to come so soon. But we're happy. It's a blessing."

They wed the last last January.

### Joyaudy renewing

As he promised, Jeng Reyella renewed vows with wife Sep. Luni Mercado on the occasion of their silver anniversary yesterday.

But he's still the same groom giddy with excitement, he said: "After 25 years together, six children and two grandchildren, I'm looking forward to another 25 years together ... for our golden anniversary."

Luni agreed: "Our friends told us that some couples are no longer as healthy when they celebrate their 50th ... but now we can involve our children and show them the importance of our marriage and love for each other."

### Venus as Reyna Elena

The Amoera Center held its traditional Grand Encounter last Sat. with the feast of San Isidro Labrador. Some 10 beauty queens paraded around the Cubao commercial complex with marching bands and colorful flowers lining up the route.

Miss Universe 4th runner-up Venus Raj was Reyna Elena while Miss International 1970 rejects Pipsan was the Empress. (JS)

### Scotty cops iTunes

LOS ANGELES—Scotty McCreery hit No. 1 on the iTunes single chart on Thursday, as his television rejoined a 21 percent surge in viewers for the all-country music finale of the long-running singing contest.

McCreery, 17, became the first country musician to win the "Idol" title and a recording contract since Carrie Underwood in 2005. The pained turn with the distinctive deep voice beat 16 year-old Lauren Alaina in the youngest Top 2 match-up in the show's 10-year history.

McCreery's newly-released single "I Love You This Big" went straight to the top of the iTunes singles charts, while Alaina's emotional ballad "Like My Mother Does" was at No. 2 on on Thursday.

"This is pretty wild. It is a whole lot more than I bargained for coming in to this," McCreery, a fourth grader from North Carolina, told reporters on Thursday. "But I'm handling it well. This is my new life, so it's good."

Some 25.2 million Americans tuned in to see McCreery crowned at the end of a star-studded finale on Wednesday that included performances from Lady Gaga, Jimmy Buffett and "Idol" judges Jennifer Lopez and Steven Tyler. Reuters

### A different kind of bracelet

LOS ANGELES—Troubled starlet Lindsay Lohan was fitted with an ankle bracelet electronic monitoring device Thursday at the start of 35 days of house detention as part of a plea deal over her alleged theft of a $2,500 necklace, police said.

The 24-year-old was sentenced last month to 120 days in jail for violating probation and ordered to complete community service, but was allowed to serve her sentence at home after pleading no contest to the theft charge.

She was booked at 5 a.m. Thursday at the Century Regional Detention Facility in Lynwood, south of Los Angeles, the LA County Sheriff's Department said. AFP

### Top of the tabloids

The top show biz news in the heavily tabloid Bandera (and why we are amused if we are moved):

- Nora, jealous long dive ang peg pending Annylyn supalpal kay Dennis (Ito nord against ito.)
- Bulong-bulong Luis Manzano, Jen Medoza nagdinner sa kanto (Magandang pribadong usapan.)
- Ogamong Gabi-Gabi sobra long Chito Miranda (Ano ginamot ng asawa?)
- Marami ng ang bumat kay Lani (Dahil?)
- Alex Gonzaga trinabaho' ang noong Dasal nagpanic? (Bakit?)
- Kumilo pinag-a-asawa na si Jaanoo (Handy na kaya si Yael?)
- Ang saya-saya ng bonding ng family ni Jessy Mendiola (Kasama pala si Luis Manzano.)
- Close umanong 'under de sare' kay Sunshine (Pero pinagbigay sa bagong show niya.)
- Dinagdag nag react na love life ni Piolo
- Kawawa ayaw nang mabalitan ng child. Ganyan nga ba yan.)
- Lots blandy mailes also sa mga balita?
- Bistado Shaina nag aamy na sa pambobotol kay Pacman.
- Diaz, Santos, Gloria face to face sa bonding Lucy Reing Effendi kan.)
- Mga feeling sa set ng Amaya' nag pyesta sa mga balot


## MOVIE TIME

**GLORIETTA 4**

1: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES (3D)
2: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
3: KUNG FU PANDA 2 (3D)
4: FAST FIVE
5: IN THE NAME OF LOVE
6: KUNG FU PANDA 2
7: DYLAN DOG

**GREENHILLS 1**

1: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
2: KUNG FU PANDA 2

**GREENHILLS 2**

1: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
2: KUNG FU PANDA 2
3: FAST FIVE
4: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
5: KUNG FU PANDA 2

**ALABANG TOWN CENTER**

1: KUNG FU PANDA 2
2: KUNG FU PANDA 2 (3D)
3: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES (3D)
4: FAST FIVE
5: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES

**AYALA CENTER CEBU**

1: KUNG FU PANDA 2
2: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
3: KUNG FU PANDA 2
4: FAST FIVE

**MARQUEE**

1: KUNG FU PANDA 2
2: KUNG FU PANDA 2 (3D)
3: ARTHUR
4: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES

**MARKET! MARKET!**

1: KUNG FU PANDA 2
2: DYLAN DOG
3: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES (3D)
4: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
5: KUNG FU PANDA 2
6: RESERVED
7: IN THE NAME OF LOVE

**TRINOMA**

1: DYLAN DOG
2: IN THE NAME OF LOVE
3: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES (3D)
4: FAST FIVE
5: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
6: KUNG FU PANDA 2
7: KUNG FU PANDA 2

**ABREEZA**

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2: KUNG FU PANDA 2
3: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN ON STRANGER TIDES
4: FAST FIVE

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Series 4
6:00 p.m. Event Plaza

**MARKET! MARKET!**
Makeup Workshop Event
May 28-31, Activity Center

**AYALA CENTER CEBU**
Cebu Fiesta Festival
May 28 to 31, Activity Center

**TRINOMA**
Fiesta Filipino Festival
May 28-31, Activity Center

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# ENTERTAINMENT

NEWPORT CINEMAS
PRESENTS

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## An epic journey back in time

By Marinel B. Cruz

DIRECTOR Mike Alejandre screened all of Luzon provinces to find the perfect backdrop for GMA 7's historical epic series "Reuma."

The story is set in the pre-colonial period of the 1100s. It is about a princess (portrayed by Mikaela Rivera), who is forced to wed slavery. She later discovers her extraordinary powers, which she uses to lead her people at a time when rulers dominated society.

"We're shot scenes in Horizontes and Malibu, Subanen, Cebu, Batangas, Batanes, Ilocos Norte, Subic, Zambales, Bohol, Pangasinan and a couple more," Alejandre told Inquirer Entertainment during a recent media gathering. "Why are those not far from each other? Because the story happens when there weren't many obstacles yet. We had to look for places with very few established scenes, which don't distract viewers visually."

Alejandre said he accepted the project, which the network dubbed as an "epic-serye," for several reasons: "I believe in the story of Reuma. I also think this genre is exciting and that it can be a format where dozens of stories can be told and retold. Lastly, I think the money that GMA 7 is putting in to this is worth it."

The series is created by the same team that worked on "Encantadia" in 2005. The story is written by Jeanette Theodoro, with Bodell Cruz as production designer and Gino Gonzales as costume expert.

Inquirer Entertainment sat down with Alejandre, who only had good words for his lead actors Mariian, Sid Lucero and Mikael Daez. He also talked about the pressure of directing a multimillion-peso project.

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# Jessica who? Actress s

LOS ANGELES – Jessica Cha... hate was in a daze. She had just... scene from the Cannes Film Fes... tival where no less than Brad Pitt and Brian Benn held rushed her hotel as they walked and posed before the ends of screaming photographers at the premiere of Julie Taymor's Mid... sh film, "The Tree of Life."

"I slept late the other day," said Jessica in an LA hotel overlooking room. Suddenly, she's the "it" actress. "The Tree of Life," in which Jessica plays Brad's wife, won Cannes' top prize, Palme D'Or.

Meanwhile, Jeff Nichols' "Take Shelter," where she stars opposite Michael Shannon, took the grand prize in the festival's Critics' Week section and also snagged her screenwriting honors.

"All day yesterday I didn't leave the house," said the brilliant, trained actress whose films will be released this year. In addition to the two Cannes movies, she has a 7-year-old in Brendan in "Get... Green" with Ralph Fiennes (who also directs), "The Debt" with Helen Mirren, "The Help" with Emma Stone and the highly anticipated acting reunion, "The Help."

We saw Jessica act for the first time when she essayed the title role in an LA staging of Ch... ter Wilde's "Salome." She acted opposite Al Pacino, who starred as Elus... ed as Elus... with Jessica also in the eponymous role, which premieres in the coming Venice Film Festival.

## Adrenaline rush

The Northern California-raised actress, who once a yellow green underwood beside Brad and Brian in the premiere photos that were splashed in publications all over the world, said of her past Cannes week: "I slept for two days and I was like lying on the ground. It was like I don't even know what I just did. It's slowly coming back to me. It was a huge, it's another of the highlights for my career. I even ... ake think of the week."

She thought the premiere of "The Tree of Life" was crazy. "That was the biggest red carpet

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Actress Y Anjanette

For two years, Where we lived ... the top of the stairs and Brad ... waiting in the night. I mean like ... he wearing an? I look and ... ward people on both sides."

## Critics divided

Recalling the mixture of ... reserve Bullock from a long list ... upgraders, Jessica said: "I ... ing a little bit and being ... ed. I mean in my mind I ... back to wasn't honored. Because ... ally fun. I was pleasure ... were, I was really nothing ... more than I was thinking, ... don't let go of my hands. ... more in a lifetime experience ... Bullock.

While there were reports of ... the Cannes press screening of ... the long-gestating project ... emphasis by the festival's ... were divided ... so many in the ... around the hotel week by ... who takes years to get his ... and released. Variety's Jon ... said the pictorial, describing ... as "striking but has a hypno... ty of emotion, an explosi...

LIAM NEESON and Jessica Cha... in "The Tree of Life"

... upsetting LOL-minor tempe...

Asked about the critic... ovary, whom he calls 'Tre... much writers about ... ...

...bility in Cannes, Jessica ... "First, like most every ... at the festival and at the ... The buzz doesn't mean ... barely supportive of the ... of us who were there."

A fan of Terrence's work, ... chokes such gems as "The ... time "Days of Heaven" and ... World," Jessica described the ... she read his script for "Tree ... the reading a novel. I didn't ... should be published because ... the best pieces of writing ... ever."

She recalled that she didn't ... script until after "I had been ... for months. I really didn't know ... story was about, so when I ... and asked, 'Would you like to ... character?' I said, 'Yes.' He gave ... send you the script.' ... doesn't matter. I'll play the ... He said, 'Please read the script ... we quite a long time to ... because every sentence is ... poetry. It's so dense."

Jessica's 2008 Seattle In... d Film Festival first screened ... talented being surprised that ... chose her. "I remember think... this couldn't be a really great ... didn't get into the situation ... my ego that if I was chosen ... getting offered things."

## 'OMG' moment

Telling us that she has a "h... in Terrence's new untitled fil... went on to recount her "OMG" ... when she found out that Br... play her husband: "It just ... cry mind that we would be ... golfers playing husband and ... I was having a conversation ... on the phone while he was ... theater, he said, 'Jessica, ... father and it's going to be ... had this moment of I didn't ... and then I was trying to be ... phone and not be like, 'Brad ... just like, 'Okay yes, he's a g... My friend was in the room ... kind of shaking. I grabbed ... and a pad and I wrote, 'Brad ... confirmation. We both threw ... in the air. It was definitely a ... Quill' moment."

Since Brad plays actress Jes... Jessica said her role requir... spend more time in Israel wi... was also pleased her young ... Brad, it was different. Jessica ... character is trying to create a ... with her husband, so he knew ...

"So we didn't really spend ... bonding time because Terr... are so infatuated from such a ...

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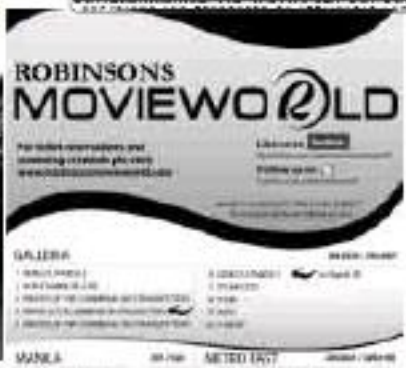
# uddenly becomes the 'it' girl



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## Brillante does MMK

MAN PERNANDEZ — During the Unang Pandanas in Pangasinan, Cannes-winning filmmaker Brillante Mendoza announced that he will direct an episode of the ABS-CBN drama anthology "Wagas de Amor." The episode/s is in line with his new personal cause: the anti-mining campaign in Pilipinas. After discovering the environmental problem with Gina Lopez, managing director of the ABS-CBN Foundation, Mendoza decided to do the TV series, along with a documentary film, to popularize the issue among the masses. A Star Cinema movie was also mentioned, but he would like to prioritize the docu and MMK. Also in the works is a Brillante Mendoza Film Festival in QMC/cinemas nationwide. He also plans to invite other internationally acclaimed Filipino filmmakers Ikarus Gallen, Raya Martin and Hipet Dolores to make docus and short films on Pasinax.

DID YOU KNOW...

Reported from Ellenjoy Ar

# An epic journey...

> from page K1

SID Lucero and Marian Rivera

**Did it really take you more than a year to pre-production?**

Yes. The idea for "Amayan" came from a crazy notion who dared to go wild. I have to hand it to Snooky, who wrote the story from a long-forgotten parable. We've consulted two experts from the University of the Philippines' history department as consultants. When the script was given to me, I had a series of meetings with Snooky and the historians. This took two months. We had to validate a lot of processes and make sure that some events in the lives of our characters really happened in the 15th.

**Can you cite examples?**

It took us three years to set up a burial rite of a babaylan (priestess) because we first had to look for a centuries-old babaylan. When we were finally ready, we were told that burial rites were only done during meetings. We had to wait for the next day.

When you look closely at Amayan's bed, you'll see that it has engravings. The design came upon nine and swamp to recreate a princess' bed via the 1000s).

**What's the network's goal in producing "Amayan?"**

We want to tell a good story. If it stirs interest in a certain era that's good. If it sparks discussion, that's also good. We don't want to be historians but we want to tell a love story that may have happened at a time and place relevant to us in "Amayan."

**Did GMA 7 set a budget limit?**

I can say this project costs hundreds of millions of pesos, but the GMA 7 bosses said I never talked about money. Whenever they sat down with me, it was always to say that they wanted to see certain things in the show.

**How do you describe Sid as an actor?**

He's very intense. He's an acting genius. He's the exhibition of all my assumptions. We've not shot major scenes yet, but I know that he's a brilliant actor. I gave him a drift, and I'm sharing his ambition. On the 30th second, I already knew that he's Prince Bagani.

**What about Mikael?**

He only has to close doing film was when I saw during the screening and the workshop he attended. He's very promising, he wouldn't be on the show if I don't believe in him.

**Are you feeling the pressure of directing such a big project?**

I feel extremely tired. This requires so much energy. When I'm tired, I'm vulnerable to a lot of emotions. Only now, in all my responsibility as a director.

"Amayan" also features Gina Alajar, Lani Mercado, Gardo Versoza, Raymond Bagatsing, Glaiza de Castro, Ryan Eigenmann and Rochelle Pangilinan, among others. It premieres tonight on GMA 7's Telebabad time slot.

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- Knowledge of internal controls and procedures
- Committed team player with excellent interpersonal skills. Willingness to extend him/herself to meet deadlines

Details (vacancy # 110083) are available in the World Bank Careers website: www.worldbank.org/careers. All applications must be submitted through this website. The World Bank Group is committed to achieving diversity in terms of gender, nationality, culture and educational background. Individuals with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply.

**Closing date is June 3, 2011.**

### FINANCE ANALYST

The Finance Analyst (FA) is a member of Loan Operations Division of the Controller's Loan Department. FAs contribute to various team responsibilities, such as disbursement transaction and analysis, project management and capacity building. The FAs plays an important role in ensuring the financial accountability of borrower/recipients, specifically that loan proceeds are used for the purposes intended and are eligible in accordance with the World Bank policies and procedures. The FA might be requested to contribute to Department or corporate initiatives. The position requires strong accounting and auditing skills. The FA provides technical support to the financial analysts and reports to the Regional Center Team Leader. The assignment will be Term appointment for a period of one (1) year with possibility of renewal.

**Selection Criteria:**

- University degree (BA/BS) in business, accounting, finance and/or related field and preferably has a professional accounting qualification (CA/CPA).
- Minimum of five years experience in project accounting, auditing and contract management.
- Knowledge of government funds flow, accounting and auditing systems are desirable.
- Familiarity with World Bank policies and practices related to disbursement and procurement is an advantage.
- Ability to review, analyze and evaluate financial information and make recommendations concerning, inter alia, the eligibility of expenditures and adherence to the Bank's policies and procedures.
- Ability to deal with rapidly shifting priorities and work demands, and willingness to learn new skills and seek help from colleagues, as well as coach, mentor and develop more junior staff.
- Excellent team player with a strong client and results orientation, capable of working within a multi-cultural environment but also independently, with minimum supervision.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English (essential) with Vietnamese and/or Bahasa Indonesia (desired).
- Willingness to travel on short-term assignments.

Details (vacancy # 110085) are available in the World Bank Careers website: www.worldbank.org/careers. All applications must be submitted through this website. The World Bank Group is committed to achieving diversity in terms of gender, nationality, culture and educational background. Individuals with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply.

**Closing date is June 3, 2011.**

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To be part of this amazing team, you need to meet the following requirements:
- Minimum age of 21 years
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- Minimum high school education with Fluency in written and spoken English required

Take advantage of this exciting opportunity by submitting your CV to our Recruitment Team.

MANILA - (CV Submission only)
Venue: DIAMOND HOTEL - Roxas Boulevard Cor. Dr. J. Quintos St. Manila, Philippines
Date: 03rd June 2011
Time: 0900 - 1200 hours only

Please bring your CV in English personally along with full length and passport size photographs. Short listed candidates will be required to attend further processes over the next two to three days.

The above positions will be based in Doha, State of Qatar.

For further information, please visit: www.qatarairways.com

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SATORP is a project company between Saudi Aramco (35% of Saudi Arabia) and TOTAL (37.5% of France), established in 2008. The company is building a 400,000 barrel per day (bpd) refinery and associated facilities in Jubail, Saudi Arabia. Construction of the complex is underway and is scheduled for completion and start-up in 2013.

SATORP is a leading high caliber international training for challenging and rewarding career opportunities. We are looking for qualified and experienced people to fill the following vacancies:

## Open Day Recruitment
on June 4, 2011 (Saturday) at IPAMS

SATORP is seeking high caliber international training for challenging and rewarding career opportunities. We are looking for qualified and experienced people to fill the following vacancies:

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### Welding Inspectors

### NDT Technicians - Level III

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www.yeshired.ph / www.yeshumanresources.com

Our Singapore-based client is a leading contractor for the biggest project of SAUDI ARAMCO in Jubail, KSA. We are open for the following positions for the completion of this project!

Job Order Accreditation No. 181622Y4

- Civil Planning Engineers (6)
- Piping & Mechanical Equipment Engineers (6)
- Commissioning Engineers (9)
- Civil Design Engineers (6)
- Lead Piping Engineers (5)
- Field Piping Designers (5)
- QC Managers (8)
- QA Managers (9)
- QC Inspectors – Welding (25 )
- QC Inspectors – Mechanical (50)
- QC Inspectors – Coating (12)
- QC Inspectors – Civil (12)
- QA/QC Engineers (25)
- Foreman - E&I (30)
- Instrumentation (DCS/ESD) Engineers (8)
- Field Engineers - E&I (8)

**All applicants should have experience in an OIL & GAS and PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRIES**

Urgent opening for a leading Steel Fabrication Company in Jubail, KSA!!!

Job Order Accreditation No. 181T5S98

Engineering Manager
QA/QC Manager – 10-15 years experience in Steel Structural Process, 5 years minimum experience in QA/QC, NDT Level II, and good exposure in API 5LD and ASME codes

Please apply personally in our office from 9A-5P, 8am-5pm. Bring your comprehensive resume, employment certificates, school credentials, NBI, valid passport and two 2x2 photos. You can also email your application to grace@yeshumanresources.com / leona_yeshr@yahoo.com. Kindly indicate desired position in the subject of your email and in your resume.

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For Immediate Hiring

## PROJECT ACCOUNTANT

The Local Implementation of National Competitiveness for Economic Growth (LINC-EG) Project, which is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), has an immediate opening for a Project Accountant.

LINC-EG aims at promoting local and national economic competitiveness to improve prospects for economic growth and fiscal sustainability. Its project activities involve national government agencies, local government units and private business and are based in Manila and Mindanao.

The Project Accountant will be a key part of the project team and will be in charge of financial management. His/her core responsibilities cover monitoring and improving established systems for financial accounting, documenting, forecasting, reporting, and auditing.

Qualifications:

1. Bachelor's Degree with major in Accounting. A CPA or similar qualification is an added advantage.
2. At least 5 years of extensive experience in accounting and financial management of development assistance projects.
3. Familiarity or experience using QuickBooks.
4. Knowledge of USAID financial reporting regulations.
5. Supervisory and/or management experience is an advantage.

Please submit your curriculum vitae to Ms. Muriel M. Toledo, Office Manager, Local Implementation of National Competitiveness for Economic Growth (LINC-EG) Project at Unit 1104, 11th Floor, 139 Corporate Center, 139 Valero Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City (preferably via email at mtoledo@linc-eg.ph) on or before June 6, 2011.

We offer competitive remuneration commensurate with salary history and experience.

LINC-EG is an equal opportunity employer.

---

A prestigious company engaged in Land Development is in urgent need of a licensed:

## MECHANICAL ENGINEER

Qualifications as follows:

- Male, not more than 45 years old, preferably age 40 or below.
- With at least 8 -10 years experience as Project Manager and/or Project Engineer in vertical and/or horizontal projects, managing more than 150 personnel and staff involved in Civil, Mechanical, Electrical and Sanitary aspects.
- Proficient in oral and written Pilipino and English languages.
- Hardworking, diligent, honest, a good motivator, loyal to the company and with very good leadership qualities.
- Willing to accept Cebu/Iloilo posting and reside if necessary at the worksite.
- Must be in excellent health and willing to undergo medical and psychological tests prior to employment.
- Must possess good moral character and capable of resolving problems at site with the least assistance from higher management.

Interested parties may send a letter of application with complete resume and latest 2" x 2" photo with NBI, Police and Barangay clearances to:

P.O. BOX No. 1305
Makati Central Post Office
1200 Makati City

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alumco

One of the leading Architectural Façade (Aluminium & Glass) Companies, seeks to recruit the following positions:

| Positions | Job Ref No |
|---|---|
| Designers | HR/006 |
| Design Team Leaders | HR/007 |
| Structural Engineers | HR/008 |

*Aluminium Experience is a must.

Interested candidates may forward their updated profile to hrjalumcouae indicating the Job Ref No.

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BE PART OF THE BILLIONAIRE TEAM!!!
We're looking for dynamic individuals to fill in the following positions in KINGS PHILIPPINES, Project of SM BONI TECHNOLOGY

PROPERTY SPECIALIST
At least 21 to 35 years old
2 or 3 years course with an office experience

ASSISTANT SALES MANAGER
At least 25 to 35 years old
4 years course with 3 years relative experience
Pro-Agressive, people person

D-HR, WORKINGS
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or 8552-0183 loc. 1805
Please send Resume to: jobhunterkings@yahoo.com

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WANTED
An Antipolo based company is in need of

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS
- Female, age 20-25 years old
- College graduate from a prestigious school
- Proficient in oral and written English
- Honest and diligent
- Computer literate
- Salary range is from Php 5,000 - 10,000 monthly

Excellent Salary & benefits to qualified candidates
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As an organization, RR Donnelley stands committed to nurturing a winning and 'one team' culture where every individual understands their contribution to the organization. Our people are driven by their accountability for results, and supported by a meritocratic system that celebrates success. We strive to be an employer of choice in the markets that we operate in by providing an environment in which employees can reach their highest potential.

We invite you to be a part of our global community, today!

* The Fortune 500 is an annual ranking of America's largest companies, compiled and published by Fortune magazine. The rankings are based on total revenue for the respective fiscal year.

**Claims Processors**

**Job Description**

- Graduates in any 2 year / 4 year course with a minimum of 1 year work experience in the BPO industry; experience in insurance claims is an advantage

**Customer Service Executives (Voice)**

**Job Description**

- Graduates in any 2 year / 4 year course with a minimum of 1 year experience in the BPO industry or any customer service related fields
  ** Undergraduates with a minimum of 1 year of work experience are welcome to apply

**Actuarial Analysts**

**Job Description**

- Graduates in Mathematics, Statistics, Actuarial Science or its equivalent with 2-3 years of work experience in related fields

**Financial Analysts**

**Job Description**

- Graduates in Finance / Accountancy/ Banking with 1 year work experience in General Accounting, Accounts Payables, Accounts Receivables, Reconciliation or its equivalent

**Interested candidates may personally visit the office at 9F Eastgate Center, 169 EDSA, Mandaluyong City for the selection process, from Mondays to Fridays between 10am to 5pm.**

**Please bring an updated copy of your resume and a valid ID.**

**You may also send an updated copy of your resumes to mandarecruitment@officetiger.com and indicate the position you are interested in the subject line.**

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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

UNDP Philippines is inviting qualified candidates to fill the following post:

- **EXECUTIVE ASSOCIATE TO THE RR/RC (details are available in our website http://www.undp.org.ph/jobs/)**

The Executive Associate to RR/RC ensures effective and efficient functioning of the RR/RC office, full confidentiality in all aspects of assignment, maintenance of protocol procedures, management of information flow and follow-up on deadlines and commitments made.

The Executive Associate can supervise the secretarial and clerical staff of the office. The Executive discharges to RR/RC works in close collaboration with UNDP staff, UNDP and UN Agencies and national authorities to ensure efficient flow of information, actions on instructions, agendas.

The UN Resident Coordinator's Office is administered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which is the UN's global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. It is actively involved in the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Summary of key functions:

1. Effective and efficient functioning of the RR/RC office
2. Effective communications support to the office
3. Facilitation of knowledge building and management

Qualifications:

EDUCATION: A bachelor's degree, preferably in Psychology or Social Science or other related field, with specialized secretarial training.

EXPERIENCE: 5 to 7 years of progressively responsible secretarial, administrative, programme experience is required at the national or international level. Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc), experience in handling of Web-based management systems.

LANGUAGE REQ: Fluency in the English and national language of the duty station.

The selected candidate will receive a salary that is commensurate with his/her background and work experience. Interested applicants are requested to complete the UN Personal History Form (P.11), available in our website http://www.undp.org.ph/jobs/ and send to Humanresources.ph@undp.org OR Human Resources, United Nations Development Programme, 30th Floor, Yuchengco Tower I, RCBC Plaza, Ayala Ave., cor. Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City

Indicating the "APPLICATION TO POST TITLE AND VACANCY NO" on or before 13 June 2011. Kindly note that only completed P.11 forms will be reviewed. UNDP is an equal opportunity employer. Please note that we will contact only the short-listed candidates.

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CRS

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is an American relief and development NGO created in 1943 by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to assist the poor and disadvantaged overseas, with programs in over 90 countries. Present in Philippines since 1945, CRS' mission statement calls on the agency to alleviate human suffering, advance integral human development, and foster charity and justice in the world. All of its programs assist persons on the basis of need, regardless of religion, ethnicity or nationality. CRS / Philippine Program currently manages programs in agriculture, disaster resource management, peace and reconciliation, and emergency response. Our two offices are located in Manila and Davao. CRS offers competitive salary and benefits packages.

## JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

CRS/Philippine Program is seeking experienced and dynamic individuals with the following general qualifications:

- Excellent communication and writing skills in English; especially report writing
- Experience working as part of a multi-disciplinary technical team
- Skills: Active listening, active learning, complex problem solving, critical thinking, service orientation, systems evaluation, judgment and decision making, monitoring
- Technology: Microsoft Office 2003/2007
- Knowledge: Events management and donor regulations

**DEPUTY PROGRAM MANAGER – EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND CAPACITY BUILDING (MANILA)**

The position will provide training and technical support as part of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Training project to be rolled out to 13 partner organizations. During disasters, the Deputy Program Manager will provide support in implementing emergency response projects, including needs assessments, project design, proposal writing, and implementation. Position requires up to 50% travel with ability to deploy rapidly to emergency field settings.

- Bachelor's degree; masters degree is desirable
- Minimum of three (3) years experience working with NGOs or government agencies in planning or implementation of emergency response, disaster risk reduction, training experience desired
- Strong analytical skills, both in qualitative/quantitative approaches
- Ability to work with stakeholders on multiple levels including non-government organizations, donors, media groups, religious groups (Catholic, Muslim, etc.), and government units
- Strong skills in developing organizational capacity including institutional strengthening, mentoring and coaching
- Experience on project planning, reporting, M&E methods and participatory approaches

**FINANCE OFFICER (DAVAO)**

The position primarily deals with general accounting, fund management, technical assistance to NGO partners and financial audit. Position requires 25% of travel time throughout the country.

- Graduate of bachelor's degree in Accountancy, CPA desired.
- Minimum of four (4) years experience in fund accounting, general accounting and budget management.
- Knowledgeable of computerized accounting system; preferably SUN systems or equivalent.
- Strong skills in assessing and developing partner capacity including institutional strengthening, mentoring and coaching.
- Mature disposition and ability to appropriately manage sensitive situations.

**Interested candidates should send their curriculum vitae and cover letter, in English before June 8, 2011 to:** crsph@sea.crs.org

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**We require**

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recruitment.manil@boehringer-ingelheim.com

Indicate PM - PSR in the Subject Field.

Previous applicants need not apply.

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*If you are a passionate and committed professional and want to make a lasting difference for children, the world's leading children's rights organization would like to hear from you.*

## CONSULTANT for Health and Nutrition Section

The purpose of the assignment is to develop a Guideline and Training Module for the Safe and Effective Operation of Human Milk Banks in a Tertiary Hospital Setting, a quidgeide for the orientation and dissemination of advocacy information on Human Milk Banks, outlining tools for Human Milk Banks and hospitals on neonatal units receiving donor breastmilk and a criteria for the identification and selection of tertiary hospitals for the establishment of the Human Milk Bank. The consultant will also assist in forming a Human Milk Bank committee, recommend equipment and supplies suitable for the running of a Human Milk Bank, supervise the training of staff and help establish one Human Milk Bank in a selected hospital.

**ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS**

- The contracted individual or agency must be knowledgeable in Human Milk Banking.
- They will need to demonstrate their experience and expertise in clinical guideline building process based on evidence and best practice.
- They are expected to have expertise and experience in conducting qualitative research, policy research, and training analysis.
- The contracted agency should provide a detailed plan for the management and quality assurance of the study. They should also justify the proposed staffing.

**COMPLETE TERMS OF REFERENCE IS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE EMAIL ADDRESS BELOW.** Interested parties must send curriculum of material by submitting letter of interest, comprehensive CV, UN Personal History Form/Personal Hiss http://www.unicef.org/Whatwedo/UNPersonal_History_Form.pdf, detailed proposal including brief interpretation of the consultant's understanding of the process, and suggested budget with itemized cost and payment terms. Please send proposals on or before 10 June 2011 by email to: quezoncityrecruit@unicef.org The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is committed to gender equality in its mandate and its staff. Well qualified candidates particularly females are encouraged to apply. UNICEF is a non-smoking environment.

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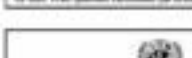

**KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT (KMA)**

Responsibilities: Facilitate how the team delivers appropriate services which includes response to public requests for correspondence sent via electronic means via the UN and related platforms, and helps organize events and events related to UN Women.

Knowledge, skills, competencies required:
- Intermediate skills in MS Word/Excel, Publisher
- Strong knowledge and familiarity in using social networking sites
- Organizational skills, both written and oral
- Ability to organize events
- Good coordination skills
- Ability to multi-task and work as part of a team

Education and Experience:
- University Degree in Library Science/Information Management, or related fields
- Minimum of two (2) years of relevant professional experience in knowledge management and/or Web 2.0 sites Experience in libraries
- Fluency in English and Filipino, both written and orally; an asset if multilingual
- Experience in promotional writing
- Training in database management is desirable

Competitive salaries and benefits. Interested applicants are requested to complete the Personal History Form (P11) available in the website http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/corporate/HR/Personal%20History%20Form%20(P11).pdf and send to: hiyasmeenmoolla.ph@undp.org or human.resources.ph@undp.org with the subject line: Application for Knowledge Management Assistant. 20th Floor, Yuchengco Tower I, RCBC Plaza, Ayala Avenue, cor. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, Metro Manila and only.

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# Job Hiring:

1. General Foreman
2. Project Architects
3. Civil Engineer

Qualification:

**Civil Engineer:**

1. Graduate of Civil Engineering with or without license.
2. At least 3 years experience
3. Technical Plan (1-45 years old)
4. Knowledgeable in Engineering and other useful software (ex: AutoCAD, Soft Desk, MS word and Excel)
5. Willing to travel abroad

**Architects:**

1. A candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture
2. Knowledgeable in project management is an advantage
3. Knowledgeable in AutoCAD, Soft Desk, MS Word and Excel
4. At least 2 to 5 years working experience in the related field

Kindly send your Resume at: bilgusmalls@yahoo.com
Or call 725-5029 / 7291146
Look for: Ms. Beth Ogle

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Assistance and Cooperation for Community Readiness and Development, Inc. (ACCORD Inc.) wishes to announce the following vacancies:

**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR**

The Executive Assistant will work closely with the Executive Director to manage the implementation of the organization's deliverables towards the Partners for Resilience programme. He/She will support the ED in coordination, administrative, financial, organizational, research and other tasks that may be required by the organization. This is a short-term position (Two months).

(Gross Salary: Php 35,000)

**DESIGN, MONITORING AND EVALUATION OFFICER**

The CARE Officer will primarily be involved in monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Partners for Resilience (PfR) programme by CARE Netherlands partners and CARE Inc. (AMD, CARD and consortium). He/She will make input to the designing new projects that will complement, scale up and evaluate the PfR programmes. Tracking of available donor resources and funding priorities will be carried out on a regular basis as contribution to the fundraising strategy of CARE Netherlands PfR implementing partners in the Philippines. The duration of this engagement is one year, with possibility for extension.

(Gross Salary: Php 53,000)

Interested parties may send in their application letter and complete CV to philaccordinc@gmail.com not later than 30 June 2011. For more details about project and terms of reference, you may send inquiries on the above email address or call (02)921-4370.

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# DESK EDITOR

- College graduate major in Journalism or any Social Sciences course
- Must have 3 years experience in newspaper Journalism
- With at least 2 years experience in editing and designing/layouting pages
- Familiar with editorial operations in publishing industry

Send your application letter and comprehensive resumé to:

THE HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer, Inc.
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Reposado Streets, Makati City
Email: resumeshrm@inquirer.com.ph

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**ILS** Be part of *The Institute for Labor Studies*, the policy research and advocacy arm of the Department of Labor and Employment.

We are looking for excellent individuals with background in *Economics, Journalism, Communications, International Relations, Labor Relations, Law, Political Science, Social Policy, Sociology, Development Studies, Public Administration, Statistics* and other related courses, for these positions:

(1) **LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT OFFICER II** (SG 13)
Basic Salary: P17,880.00 + PERA: P2,080.00

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree in any of the above courses
- 1 year work experience in social research
- 4 hours relevant training
- Career Service Eligible (Professional)

We are also looking for:

(1) **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT III (Bookkeeper)** (SG 09)
Basic Salary: P13,663.00 + PERA: P2,080.00

Qualifications:

- Completion of 2 years studies in college
- One (1) year of relevant experience
- Four (4) hrs. of relevant training
- Career Service Eligible (Sub-professional)

Qualified applicants may send their comprehensive resumé to the address below not later than 09 June 2011.

**Office of the Executive Director**
**Institute for Labor Studies**
**S/F DOLE Bldg., Gen. Luna St., Intramuros, Manila**
**Tel. Nos. 527-3522 and 527-3511; Fax No. 527-3491**
**Email: ilsfeeds@gmail.com**

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ZI-ARGUS

# ZI-TECHASIA

ZI-TECHASIA PHILIPPINES, INC.

ZI-ARGUS Division of ZI-TECHASIA, with strong and proven capabilities to implement turn-key process control solutions using the latest technology, methodologies and design, both in currently expanding its operations in the Philippines and in need of PROCESS CONTROL ENGINEERS and SALES ENGINEERS who are:

- Male/Female 22-40 years old • Fluent in spoken and written English • Self-motivated, dynamic, innovative, good team player and able to work independently • Knowledge of Area 4 drawings / Computer Aided production processes will be an advantage • Immediate Makati is willing to based on short notice willing for local or international projects

Interested applicants may email their resumes with pictures: info@ziphilippines.com

**PROCESS CONTROL ENGINEER (3 positions)**

Responsible for software engineering on level of PLC and SCADA systems, hardware design and other project related engineering responsibilities. Knowledge of industrial documents such as functional design specifications, P&ID, and FAT. Provide training on the designed control systems to both operators and plant engineers. Participate in on-site commissioning once customer's idea.

- Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Automation, Electrical Engineering, Electronics, Mechatronics or any industrial field
- 2-5 years experience in the field of industrial automation, instrumentation, electrical control panels and IPCC is preferable
- Knowledge of PLC and SCADA, such as Siemens, Allen Bradley, GE, Wonderware, Rockgeek, Emerson, Honeywell, Omron, etc.
- Familiarity in using common PC software tools, knowledge in programming tools or INTOUCH will be an advantage

**SALES ENGINEER (1 position)**

Responsible for sales activities on level of industrial control projects, develop sales, follow up on project leads, maintain and develop relationships with both existing and new customers, logistic to sales manager and works closely with assistant engineering manager for technical input on project sales activities. Creativity, resourcefulness, strong sound skills together with technical knowhow. I know will my qualifications and to sales oriented officials are the key abilities of the right candidate for this position.

- Graduate of any related 4-year course
- With at least three years experience in selling and marketing industrial products and services
- Able to quickly understand the application of industrial process and automation, knowledge of PLC and SCADA such as Siemens, Allen Bradley, GE, Wonderware, Rockgeek, Emerson, Honeywell, and Omron will be an advantage
- With excellent and updated knowledge of the local market, preferably with contacts in key multinational corporations in the food and beverage, semiconductor and other manufacturing companies
- Holds a legitimate Philippine driver's license

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**SM Megamall, Mandaluyong Branch**
635-9218 • 897-2264 • Fax 635-9220

**Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila Branch**
(in front of National Library)
Trunkline 523-6670 loc. 115 or 116
• Telefax 526-8213

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B&M Global Services Manila provides business and knowledge support services to leading law offices in more than 40 countries — and to their clients, many of whom are the world's largest multinationals. Explore a rewarding career with us as a member of our European Business Development Unit (EBDU).

## Proposals Coordinator

The person hired for this role will provide high-level support to the Europe Bids Manager in producing major regional and cross-practice pitch proposals. The EBDU Proposals Coordinator will help collect and maintain information for use in pitches, including representative engagements and deals, directory rankings and awards. He/she will help develop credentials materials and capability statements that comply with global brand standards.

The role requires:

- Bachelor's degree in marketing, communications, business management, or equivalent job knowledge
- Three to five years of experience, preferably in a corporate setting
- Advanced organization skills, with ability to prioritize actions in order to deliver against set objectives
- Excellent communication skills, good verbal reasoning and a high level of personal confidence
- Creativity and flexible thinking, ability to work independently as well as collaboratively
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**Nice to Haves:**

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Graduate of Bachelor's Degree in Social Work or closely courses in a must. Minimum of 3 years solid work experience in program development and management on Child Protection, background on community organizing and community development, child protection knowledge on child protection in a child's upbringing. Highly skilled in leading groups, critical thinking, communicating and effective facilitation and presentation skills. Must have good analytical skills, good planning skills, with integrity and transparency practices, gender sensitive and with sincere commitment to child rights are highly desirable.

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Due to the volume of applications we receive, we will only contact shortlisted candidates for further screening.

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For more information on Plan International and its programs in the Philippines, please visit our website: www.plan-international.org

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## Leadership and branding in an age of discontinuity

IN OVER THREE DECADES OF working in many organizations—public, non-profit, professional, religious, and non-governmental ONGs—I have met a lot of CEOs. Many of those I worked with were benevolent and professional managers. Some were simply charismatic, while others needed professional help in improving their image. Some had superior technical competence in whatever their organization was devoted to.

I notice that charismatic leaders tend to draw their authority from an inspiring and grandiose notion of purpose—the zest to make history. Often, the purpose they espouse is not earned by the status quo. On the other hand, several CEOs I worked with were poor managers. The difference was obvious. Managers tend to perpetuate the status quo and seek continuous improvement. Leaders tend to want to start over. Managers want to excel; leaders want to revolt. Quite often, the leaders leave the world different or better than they found it.

### Dangerous way to lead

The leaders I just described tend to an uneasy path. These leaders are always the point for crises and crises is the business world, the Holmesian cartoon and sitcom. Leaders who always succeeded in creating alignment and engaging people to create the environment and future they desired, are lost in the emerging age of discontinuity. Leaders well-imprinted on traditional models overtake people show up early everyday and get the job done.

For those who don't remember BF Skinner, he an esteem their dentistry. Brazilian Frederic Hebster (1904-1990) was a behaviorist, author, inventor, social philosopher and poet. He taught Psychology at Harvard University at 1958-1974. He invented the operant conditioning chamber, and advanced his philosophy of radical behaviorism which seeks to understand behavior as a function of environmental histories of reinforcing consequences.

### Authentic leadership

In the age of discontinuity, nothing is permanent. Drastic economic change, and sometimes flux, will be the norm. Leaders cannot afford even a single lame, demise moment. Perception is reality. Whether a CEO actually makes an error is chambermaid at rest, or takes her a government official has a horrendous catch his wife's domestic helper, is of no moment and needs no confirmation. Leaders under suspicion will find it hard to their control. A painstaking retrospective on a top government official who frequents the casino is a countable item in terms of leadership in the emerging economy.

In this day and age, the law of moral leadership continues in per diminus. There was when being observed by many more individuals being unchecked. Today, whether it's running a government, selling mass food hypocrisies, or selling budget airline tickets, leaders will need to have a gem and noble handle for their organizations and not in the course. Often, the handle it a mission or under people's lives knows. So, cannot achieve this today by doing the same things, only a little better. Leaders today who succeed in their endeavors are whole with a more comfortable in the most complicated times a which equated with turning the entire gas upside down.

### Leadership and branding

If you take a closer look at the many successful businesses today, you will see that some of them were built around a higher sense of purpose. As they began to succeed, these companies moved to elevate their brand to an side by side with the leadership as the spiritual guides. In a few cases organizations were global brands, like Starbucks, coca-cola culture, and the brand are often by converging into a single, much bigger purpose.

Apple and Google Apple has surged to the top as the world's No. 3 brand, edging Google, IBM, Microsoft, and countless long-time No. 1 Coca-Cola. It provides a passionate like Mr. Crunch and Facebook, the leaders are almost inseparable from their brands. The leaders don't just set the direction for their products, but also create an emotional connection between the employees and their work, between the customers and their values they share. Leaders use their brands like a nation or as its flag—to inspire its citizens and make them loyal to the cause.

People who work in companies with leading brands seem to have a positive attitude towards the company. They are usually more engaged, and their more productive than in a typical company where employees punch in and out after putting in nine-to-five hours. It might have a day at the our creating customer value. Companies with a great leader ship and a known brand are a breath of fresh air in the region of dreary, uninspiring brand of dealing produces outdated doors their dreams by mission-advertising. So often are that organizations are only companies with great leadership and leading brands, as opposed to the typical adversarial seller-customer mode. remember we are where marketing and sales begin.

Alfred Rubinstein, CEO of IBG Direct, a retail bank jokes of, in Canada and North Korea's brand really belongs to the customer. It is the customer who is empowered, talks about it, and decides to buy it. Marketing can start the process, but like all living things the result is not predictable. . . It's how people talk about it and act upon it. The final verdict on a brand is what people say about that brand when the company is not present."

### Caring

In the past, corporate success was assured if you got a fancy place to work, and got huge fat office with a view. Blind obedience from your subordinates. With that, you'd have an ideal team. Then Hollywood moldmakers—established in Los Angeles the corporate world takes the movie The Dirty Bosses, which I saw when I was young and still like The movie movement.

Today, we are not just huge fat office—it's becoming far more playful. It had a simple plot—big, hairy unfocused goal, outside the normal rules of life, and the scoring 10-genius of unlikely characters to win against impossible odds. In the movie, actor Lee Marvin had to pay together a team of prisoners for a mission during World War II. The movie itself was successful, primarily because of the casting.

Besides a leader pays one to succeed, he must not just people, He has to choose his key people very carefully and intelligently, as if casting actors in a movie. The success of any organization comes with the collection of talents, personalities and characters that would work well together.

Entitlement relates his the 10-isn't sorry the said, "Life is not a straight line. So, if you're in mission impossible and make a mission of an audacious goal, to make a long reason, well, then, you have to work with one set-one than has something to prove. For this reason, you need to be obsessed with a great vision, good looks, a good upbringing, and an entertainer's family what is the best you can hope for? Of course, people who haven't bought for their success only need to preserve what they've got. My experience said, he's of people in whom things have come easily you can only help them maintain their success and create pants. That's not even close to the motivation opportunity of giving someone who is down a chance to prove to himself and to the world that he can be successful. Those who have it easily rarely have the time and will to put in the final time and will to put to the deal, or to speak. This statement always got a smile and a handshake that was clearly another statement."

### Uneasy life

Leadership is not a position, it is a responsibility. Traditional one of the most difficult jobs in the corporate organizational roots with the collection of talents, personalities and characters that would work well together.

Entitlement relates his the 10-isn't sorry the said, "Life is not a straight line. So, if you're in mission impossible and make a mission of an audacious goal, to make a long reason, well, then, you have to work with one set-one than has something to prove. For this reason, you need to be obsessed with a great vision, good looks, a good upbringing, and an entertainer's family what is the best you can hope for? Of course, people who haven't bought for their success only need to preserve what they've got. My experience said, he's of people in whom things have come easily you can only help them maintain their success and create pants. That's not even close to the motivation opportunity of giving someone who is down a chance to prove to himself and to the world that he can be successful. Those who have it easily rarely have the time and will to put in the final time and will to put to the deal, or to speak. This statement always got a smile and a handshake that was clearly another statement."



Gospel: John 14: 15-21
"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments."

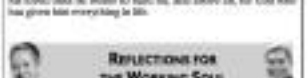
## *Loving God truly*

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillo, SDB, DD

JESUS—THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE—TEACHES us the most important. The most important is to love God and to show such love by doing his commandments. Loving God is not just a feeling of liking Him and everything about Him, but putting into action what He asks us to do. God has to show his love for God we just to search Him to results. I think that our experience in search would teach us how we have experienced God, and that is could be the works and deeds that express our love for Him.

Our work essentially is the life if we are to live. But it is a task we have to go by changing not the then, could want to at least to love God is an essential part of our existence and that we cannot only say that we live our life fully if we do not have Him in our life. As we think of our job when we wake up each morning, we expect also to think of God's presence in our life. Particularly in this, and in every moment of the day keeping the habit of thinking of God as we think of our work, of letting God as we perform every task of our job and thinking every aspect of working with the love of loving God—will make us not only busier and still more we have our priorities straight and in order.

In working we, we have to obey instructions, orders and/or work procedures. The more precise and faithful one follows the instructions for the task, the more perfect the job performance would be. In addition to the possibility of doing the tasks literally mechanically and accurately without love and without any relationship to the persons giving the orders nor to the other people who maybe affected by the work. So, the worker should be more than his every act of fulfilling work instructions, or every deed he does as he should. He must be one that has been rich love for those who pay him for the work he does, for his loved ones he works so hard for, and above all, for God who has given him everything in life.



## The rise of executive coaching

IN THE PAST YEAR, WE HAVE seen the dramatic rise of executive coaching as a leadership tool and intervention. This is how has prompted vast numbers to develop in-case training and certification in executive coaching with the help of one of the prime schools in organization development in the country. So, we happy to note the successful results and outcomes for the three class 35 Multi-disciplinary Graduates who will complete their program by June. Our consultant readers have shared very enriching and fulfilling experiences during graduation. After all most of them were successful executives before they turned into consultancy work.

### Value of executive coaching

Why the need for executive coaching? There are many reasons. One is the complexity of the globalized business environment today. Leaders are wanting to realize that our age has become a capacity of paradigm-breaking challenges and partnerships have made organizations politicized. Leaders have to navigate amidst differences in cultures, norms and personalities while achieving business continuity and profitability. Two, is the speed at which business gets done. While in the past every team have the luxury of assessing an executive development program, say in three-to-six months, today they need to clarify their thoughts and often make decisions within days or week. They need the advice and service now. Third, is the rising need for personal mastery while maximizing leadership, the ability to discern what is right, the understanding that people drive the business and the ever-constant determination to drive business results.

### Aquarium Phenomenon

But what measures with measures is what can aggravate an aquarium expert termed the "aquarium effect". Often, the executive is the big fish in the small pond where he is clear about the size of the aquarium, understands what behavior allow him to excel comfortably minded. But he may not be aware of the gaps in the external environment that may affect his career and him and his enterprise. A different one is view he is using from a low level staff to others the real issues he is up against in the marketplace in cost cultures. After all, who can debate with a record of executive success.

The value of the coach is to help the executive in finding at the same situation his with a different objective perspective. This perspective often can spell out new alternatives. The coach can store his view without fear of losing his job, unlike a person who is part of the power structure in the organization.

Coaching is in terminology such as "Skype" have enabled coaching across countries and regions. So today, the coach and the executive can be in the same jet location. One can spend an hour or two over skype, talking, making presentations and coaching. This for me gives a lot of opportunities for executives of small and medium-sized companies spread all over the country. Can you imagine if coupled with the Internet, executives from all over the country get access to the latest in leadership theory and practice, from a variety of consultants at affordable fees giving them just what they need and want?

### Roles of the Coach

As an executive coach, a person can play different roles. In providing feedback, most of the time, as an executive coach can either, be a sponge, a mirror or a objective.

Once, is to serve as a sponge, where the coach empties himself, his ego and his knowhow and takes in the coachee, processing it through empathic listening to his issues, problems and needs. Then reflecting on the client's perspective, the coach proposes his insight, says or unsays what he has heard, and develops or proves that helps. The client is enlightened and is better able to address his concerns in a few



REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

## *Proving our love*

By Teresa B. Tuzon, DCDS

FEW PLACES CAN OFFER US GREATER OPPORTUNITIES TO prove our love for God than the place where we work. What increase work usually asks us to do things harder than we are willing to do. We consume, we usually work under people without much right to do whatever we want. Even those who have their own business, we usually work under people who dictate our work, we are students, forced to change our habits, since we are closely bound to do things their way. Also, there's the pressure from quotas or deadlines—whether we feel up to it or not we have to meet it. Whether we like it or not, we have to take our coffee or cigarette break after another waiting for inspiration to arise to finish the time.

It's also at work where we are required to be better behaved than we normally would like to be, especially when our job depends on we deal with clients—we can't talk of things around even when our heart is breaking from a fight at home—we have to put on a pleasant if not happy face. Work is something like showbiz. It demands that we become bigger than ourselves and put on character—because that's what we get paid for.

But there is nothing thwarts about loving God. He enters love God or we don't—we have to walk our talk—and our performance at work will tell if we're authentic or just faking it. It is, don't grasp some times we to prove our love for Him. "If you love me you will keep my commandments." Normally, for of our grandparents' stories of ownership in their time—"ang kakahig sundigan, magpahilot ng hilot si ang hilot ng tuhog para pagsapin ang kapitbahay niya." "Well, Amo only take that we keep His commandments. That's it, it works so—we have responsibility the workplace where we spend eight hours a day with clients and managers. If we do in the case (or we learn to forgiveness, honesty, spiritual direction, various media and in prayer), no stress, she will be too big for us to handle, no pressure too unbearable to be conquered. If we truly love Him, having Anya you?

# PROPERTIES FOR FORECLOSURE AUCTION

Our Group of Companies invites everyone to bid at the public auctions for the foreclosure sale of the following properties:

| TCT No. | Location | Type | Land Area in sq.m. (more or less) | Interested Mortgagee Bid (Php) | Date and Time of Auction | Place of Auction |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T-114709<br>T-122636 | Two (2) adjoining lots, located on the southeast side of Lagumbay Road, within Brgy. Halang, Lumban, Laguna. The site is adjacent to Seventh-Day Adventist Church, about 100 meters east from Lopez Mini Resort, some 250 meters northeast from Gen. Luna Street, some 350 meters southwest from National Highway and about 1.7 kilometers northeast from Lumban Municipal Hall. | Residential Land with Improvement (unoccupied) | 221<br>210 | 258,500<br>243,620 | June 30, 2011<br>10:00 a.m. | At the Office of the Provincial Sheriff, Regional Trial Court, Sta. Cruz, Laguna |
| 608516 | Sauloq Compound, Km. 28 Gen. Aguinaldo Highway, Brgy. Saltran I, Dasmariñas, Cavite. Approximately 200 meters north from Salitran-Sauloq Road, about 2 kilometers from Dasmariñas Town Hall and about 8 kilometers from Robinson's Place, Dasmariñas and SM City, Dasmariñas | Commercial Land | 2,346 | 7,000,000 | June 28, 2011<br>10:00 a.m. | At the Main Entrance of the Office of the Clerk of Court, RTC Multiple Sala, Aguinaldo Highway, Imus, Cavite |

All properties are to be sold on "As-is, Where-is" basis. Interested bidders are advised to conduct an independent evaluation of the property through title verification and investigation of the physical and legal condition of the property prior to the auction dates.

For further information, please contact us at (02) 651-7223 or send an email to: foreclosedproperties@ctbcgroupph.com

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGISTRATION, MANDAMUS
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
BRANCH 24, CITY OF SAN PABLO, LAGUNA

DAVID S. HERMOSO,
Plaintiff

- versus -

ROGATO S. ARGUELES
ALFREDO A. ARGUELES, and
CORA S. ARGUELES,
Defendants

Civil Case No. R-4009
For: Damages and with Prayer for Preliminary Attachment

DAVID S. HERMOSO,
Plaintiff

- versus -

ROGATO S. ARGUELES
ALFREDO A. ARGUELES, and
OSCAR S. ARGUELES,
Defendants

Civil Case No. R-4010
For: Damages with Prayer for Preliminary Attachment

## SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

WHEREAS, on 12 May 2011, the Hon. Rainel C. Rubio, Presiding Judge of this Court, issued an Order in the above-entitled case directing the service of summons upon defendant OSCAR A. ARGUELES by publication.

NOW, THEREFORE, the above-named defendant is hereby required to enter his appearance and file his answer within thirty (30) days after the last day of publication of this summons. Failure on his part to appear within the said period will be his reason to the Complaint within the period specified above and will be declared in default. Let copies of this Order and the Complaint be forthwith served upon him. Upon the latter appears and prayed for in the Complaint.

ISSUED this 16th day of May 2011 at the City of Biñan, Laguna.

ATTY. LORETTE JOY B. MEJIA
Branch Clerk of Court

(PO – May 23 & 29, 2011)

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**ATTENTION**

**STUDY or MIGRATE in AUSTRALIA**

- NURSE DIRECT NURSES – UNDERGRADUATE
- STUDENT NURSES – UNDERGRADUATE
- UNDERGRAD – STUDENTS OF ANY COURSE – HIGH SCHOOL GRAD

WITH OR WITHOUT ENGLISH EXPERIENCE
MUST BE 18 YEARS OLD AND ABOVE
MUST HAVE ACHIEVED MARKS EARNED ON 1
MUST HAVE PASSED MEDICAL EXAM
NO AUSTRALIA IELTS REQUIRED

VMK OVERSEAS CONSULTANCY

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**FOR LEASE - PRIME OFFICE SPACE**
**10TH FLR., LEPANTO BLDG.**

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INTERESTED PARTIES
PLEASE CONTACT:

MR. PEDRO G. DELEZA
Cel. No. 09065551971
MS. ANDREA G. DELEZ
Cel. No. 09065610484
PILLOW INSURANCE
AGENCY & INVESTS., INC.
4th FLR., LEPANTO BLDG.
Tel. Nos. 8521-90-40 to 52
loc. 404 or 401

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**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

Notice is hereby given to the public that the following:

LUCELA T. SIAPO
JARETTE A. FRANCISCO
FLORIDA MARIE T. SAPIL
LEE VAN V. DUANTO
JUAN THOMAS E. CORETHO

are no longer connected with our company since May 15, 2011.

Any transactions made/entered into between them and any other party after this date are no longer valid and shall not be honored by the Company.

THE MANAGEMENT
FISHOOK HERMAN MANAGEMENT INC.

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**OFFICE SPACE**

**MEMORIAL LOT**

**OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT**

**BARKADA DISHPEN/ BANGLANDIA**

**REAL ESTATE FOR RENT**

**HOUSE**

**CONDO/TOWNHOUSE**

**FOR LEASE**

**COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR LEASE**

**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT**

**CONDO/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT**

**TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE**

**CARS**

**CONDO/TOWNHOUSE**

**TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT**

**CAR LOAN**

**APARTMENT**

**BUSINESS RENTAL**

**BOOK & MAGAZINES**

**OTHER EQUIPMENT**

**WANTED TO BUY**

**ROLEX LOUIS VUITTON**

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF LOSS**

**PERSONAL**

**GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE**

**MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS**

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**MALE/FEMALE**

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**CONDO/TOWNHOUSE**

**CONDO/TOWNHOUSE**

**DMCI CONDO**
**BLUE RESIDENCES**
**BESIDE ATENEO**

**DMCI CONDO!**

**LOT**

**CONDO LINE!**

**RUSH CUBAO**
**Very near EDSA**

**APARTMENT**

---

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**HEALTH/BEAUTY**

**HOUSEHOLD GOODS**

**SPORTS EQUIPMENT**

**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**

**HOUSE & LOT**

**CONDO/TOWNHOUSE**

**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**

**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**

**HOUSE & LOT**

**CONDO/TOWNHOUSE**

**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**

**HOUSE & LOT**

**CONDO/TOWNHOUSE**

**LOT FOR SALE**

**VALLE VERDE I**

**CONDO/TOWNHOUSE**

**HOUSE & LOT**

**CONDO/TOWNHOUSE**

**MALE/FEMALE**

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OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS
- Copy of Death Certificate
- Valid ID of the deceased (2 IDs)

## LOURDES PONCE GAHOL

*passed away to the Lover of our Lord on May 25, 2011 at the age of 87*

Her sons and daughters Victoria Gahol Natida, Teresa Gahol, Anabella Gahol Salubla, Clarina Gahol Ylanadlan, Angel Gahol, Francisco Gahol, Jose Gahol, Shanawren Gahol Panaligan, Susan Gahol Zinampan, Michael John Gahol; and grandchildren and other relatives request the readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at La Funeraria Sto. Asuncion, Quezon City.

Interment will be on May 29, 2011 at the North Cemetery after the celebration of the Holy Mass at 1:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Church.

## LUZ DALIDA MORENO

nee Bonifacio
*Wife of the Late Comp. Jose B. Moreno (1917-1993)*

*Peacefully joined our Creator on May 25, 2011 in Fairfax, Virginia USA at the age of 92*

She bereaved children: Elbie & Bob Rogeres, Ronald (†) & Lilian, Warren (†), Camille & Jose Espejo, Edmund & Marianne, Linda & Bernie Chua and Tina & Terry Mercandete; 13 grandchildren and 26 great grandchildren, relatives and friends request the prayer readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains will be to rest in the St. Alphonsus De Liguori Chapel, Magallanes Village, Makati on June 4 & 5, 2011 and also in San Agustin, Bonifacio on June 7 & 8, 2011.

Interment will be on Thursday, June 9, 2011 at the Don Jose O. Moreno Memorial Park in San Agustin, Bonifacio after the 10:00 AM Holy Mass at San Agustin Church.



## INVESTability: The Stock Market seminar

INVESTING 4A stocks-currently good wealth. If you know what you are doing. Colegio Investables for Education (CFE) the presents INVESTability: Stock Market, a seminar ideal for individuals who would like to understand the basics of the stock market. Know what the stock market is, what stocks are, how to interpret its indicators, and how to use. This is for individuals who are considering investing in stocks or those who already have stocks but are not really knowledgeable on the stock market, on June 25, 2011 to 5 p.m. at the Social Hall, 1F5, Ortigas Center Condominium, 709 Shaw Boulevard, Pasig City. The Colegio Investables for Education (CFE) is the primary advocate of financial education and wellness in the Philippines. Through its books, resources materials and events, CFE responds to the gaping need of Filipinos for unbiased, value-based and purpose-driven financial education. It also initiates and engages in innovative and motivating shaping initiatives aimed at helping Filipinos realize their desire to be wealthy. This seminar is also made possible through the support of the Philippine Stock Exchange Market Education Department, Business world, Research.com, Bridge, Rudyn Gomez, First Metro Investment Corp, Virtual Investment Inc, Kapatiran sa Kanegosyan Service and Multi-Purpose Cooperative and One Wealthy Woman. Other CFE seminars are (1) PERSONAL Wealth Within Your Reach, which will equip the attendees the basics of proper money management – spending, savings, planning and investing on July 16, 2 pm and (2) RWB Estability, Investment one instrument on July 30, which is ideal for individuals who are considering investing in debt securities (i.e., government securities, corporate papers etc., for those who would like to know more about available investment options. For details, call tel. nos. (02) 3331-0011 loc. 4408, e-mail info@colegioinvestables.com.ph or visit www.colegioinvestables.com.ph and avail of early bird discounts. There are also group discounts available.

## Special herbal tea vs. cancer new in the Philippines

CANCER CAN be prevented, or even managed. The key is to take care of the immune system, your body's defense against cancer cells. In Canada and parts of the United States, cancer patients are doing just that, having benefited from an old-fashioned Native American medicinal decoction for over eight decades now. Today, that formula is best selected and bottled as The Four Essence herbal tea, a powerful synergy of eight natural ingredients that help fortify the immune system, cleanses of body toxins, and rejuvenates cells and tissues. Filipinos can now enjoy the same tea after Herbacee Corporation, the makers of Essentia, has been assigned to exclusively distribute the beverage here. According to Vice President Jorge Dasaredo panel, the Essence is one of the "few natural products" accredited by cancer patients at a rate of more than 100% in some Canadian populations." The "secret" of the Essence is in its eight natural herbs, the synergy of which provides the following benefits: It helps remove toxins even efficiently. It purifies the blood. It normalizes digestion. It reduces excess fluids and toxins. It floods the body with phytonutrients and antioxidants. The Essence is taken as a tea preparation. Each pack contains dried parts of the eight herbs, and quality checked for consistency and potency. You can also buy it in liquid form in many drug stores. Recommended dosage depending on your health status. It is best taken by brewing it inside the mouth like a traditional tea, and is also simply downed in half an hour before breakfast or bedtime. Know more about cancer and the Essence. Attend the "Cancer Updates and Natural Therapies" seminar on June 5 (Monday) 6 p.m. at the Megamall function Room B (UC). Limited seats only. Call 892-2222 or e-mail info@herbacee.com.ph to reserve your seat now.

## New schedule for writing workshop for adults

TIMES ROOM House is pleased to announce a new schedule for a workshop on writing for professionals and college students. The session includes a review of grammar and writing styles, qualities of good effective writing, essay writing, report writing, journalism, feature writing, review writing, letter writing, press release writing, and short story writing. The workshop shall be held on Saturday mornings, this 10 hours and 30 minutes to 12 p.m. The entire workshop lasts for eight sessions. The workshop starts on June 18 and shall be held at the office of Times Book House at Wheaton Tower, 103 Legaspi St., Legaspi Village, Makati. The facilitator of the workshop is one of the country's outstanding writers and book editors. Slots are limited. For details, call tel. nos. (+63-4688 or 815-6805 or e-mail <timesbookhouse@yahoo.com.

## HP PHILS JOINS WPPP PHOTO CONGRESS 2011

Hewlett-Packard Philippines (HP Phils), one of the country's leading information technology companies, has joined the Worldwide Professional Photographers Association (WPPA) as the official partner of the 2011 WPPP Photo Congress. The 3-day event is WPPP's 50th anniversary celebration with seminars, trade shows, photo exhibitions and workshops. HP Philippines will be a major sponsor of the event, which will be held at the SM Megamall

Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila

**BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE FOR HALLS OF JUSTICE**

**INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF SECURITY SERVICES FOR ALL HALL OF JUSTICES NATIONWIDE**

1. The Supreme Court of the Philippines, through the Appropriations for the Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses of the Halls of Justice intends to apply the sum of Four Hundred Eighty Four Million Eight Hundred Sixty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Nineteen and 00/100 Pesos (P484,867,919.00), being the Total Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) for Two (2) Years, to payments under the contracts for the Procurement of Security Services for All Hall of Justices Nationwide, as follows:

| CLUSTER | NO. OF GUARDS | APPROVED BUDGET FOR ONE (1) YEAR | BID DOCUMENTS FEE |
|---|---|---|---|
| CLUSTER I (NCR) (NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION) | 144 | P33,606,857.76 | P10,000.00 |
| CLUSTER II (CAR) (CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION) | 80 | P6,236,937.60 | P5,000.00 |
| CLUSTER III (I) (LOCOS REGION) | 123 | P10,352,886.40 | P11,000.00 |
| CLUSTER III (II) (CAGAYAN VALLEY) | 80 | P10,457,612.64 | P8,000.00 |
| CLUSTER III (III) (CENTRAL LUZON) | 170 | P10,280,824.20 | P17,000.00 |
| CLUSTER IV (I) | 114 | P12,576,190.20 | P16,000.00 |
| CLUSTER IV (II) (MIMAROPA) | 109 | P14,274,418.84 | P16,000.00 |
| CLUSTER V (A) (METRO MANILA) | 121 | P16,288,174.20 | P12,000.00 |
| CLUSTER V (B) (CENTRAL MANILA) | 70 | P10,288,174.20 | P8,000.00 |
| CLUSTER VI (A) (WESTERN VISAYAS) | 103 | P12,768,237.04 | P13,000.00 |
| CLUSTER VI (B) (CENTRAL VISAYAS) | 88 | P9,436,216.00 | P7,000.00 |
| CLUSTER VI (C) (NEGROS ISLAND) | 83 | P12,262,748.84 | P8,000.00 |
| CLUSTER VII (A) (NORTHERN MINDANAO) | 83 | P12,262,748.84 | P8,000.00 |
| CLUSTER VII (B) (DAVAO REGION) | 89 | P9,288,731.28 | P8,000.00 |
| CLUSTER VII (C) (SOUTH CENTRAL MINDANAO (SOCCSKSARGEN)) | 63 | P8,580,888.88 | P6,000.00 |
| CLUSTER VIII (A) (CARAGA REGION) | 91 | P7,802,986.52 | P7,000.00 |
| CLUSTER VIII (B) (AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO) | 99 | P8,781,828.88 | P5,000.00 |

Bids shall be for the **ABC FOR ONE (1) YEAR ONLY PER CLUSTER.** Bids received in excess of these shall be automatically rejected at bid opening.

2. The Supreme Court of the Philippines now invites bids for the Procurement of Security Services for All Hall of Justices Nationwide. Delivery of Services is required for a period of Two (2) Years.

Bidders should have completed within two (02) years from the date of submission and receipt of bids, a contract similar to the Project equivalent to at least fifty percent (50%) of the ABC per Cluster/Lot for One (1) Year. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in the Bidding Documents, particularly, in Section II. Instructions to Bidders.

3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 9184 (RA 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act."

Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and subject to Commonwealth Act 138.

4. Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Supreme Court of the Philippines and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8:00 in the morning until 5:00 in the afternoon.

5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from

Office of the Halls of Justice
Conference Room
7th Floor, Centennial Building
Supreme Court, Padre Faura, Manila

and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee as hereinbefore provided.

6. The Supreme Court of the Philippines, through the BAC-HOJ, will hold the schedule of procurement activities, as follows:

| Activity | Schedule |
|---|---|
| 1. Issuance of Bid Documents | Start Date: May 30, 2011<br>Last Date: July 15, 2011 |
| 2. Pre-bid Conference | June 06, 2011, 9:00 a.m.<br>Training Room<br>Ground Floor, Centennial Building<br>Supreme Court, Padre Faura, Manila |
| 3. Deadline of Submission of Bids | July 12, 2011, 9:30 a.m. |
| 4. Opening of Bids | July 12, 2011, 9:00 a.m.<br>Office of the Halls of Justice<br>Conference Room<br>7th Floor, Centennial Building<br>Supreme Court, Padre Faura, Manila |

The Pre-bid Conference shall be open to all parties who bought at least one (1) bid document for any cluster in connection with the procurement.

7. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in Fifty Days (50).

Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below. Late bids shall not be accepted.

8. The Supreme Court of the Philippines reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders. In instances other than those and not specifically mentioned herein, the Supreme Court of the Philippines shall resolve bidding matters by resorting to and applying the pertinent provisions of R.A. No. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations.

9. For further information, please refer to:

Secretariat
Bids and Awards Committee for Halls of Justice
c/o Office of Deputy Court Administrator Reynaldo Villanueva
2nd Floor, Supreme Court Old Building
Taft Avenue, Manila
Tel. No. 5204981

ISAAC RAMOS LA VILLA JR.
Deputy Court Administrator and Chairperson
Bids and Awards Committee for Halls of Justice

(PHI - May 29 & June 01, 2011)

## TELUS International Philippines receives award at the 10th anniversary of Charity First Foundation, Inc.

LEADING CALL CENter and outsourcing services provider TELUS International Philippines (TIP) was awarded a plaque of appreciation by the Charity First Foundation for their support of this organization through the purchase of environmental bags. Since 2005, TIP has been using the bags to distribute recognition gifts or "Kindig treats" to team members. The awarding ceremony was held during the foundation's 10th anniversary celebration.

The Charity First Foundation is a group of conservationists/advocates aiming to help improve the lives of marginalized Filipinos. The group believes alleviating

poverty in the country can be done by providing educational support, dental and medical assistance, sustainable livelihood programs, as well as promoting environmental awareness to impoverished parts of the country.

TIP's yearly purchase of Charity First's environmental bags for the last three years helped acquire sewing machines for their livelihood program and fund the purchase of medicine for their dental and medical missions all over the country.

**Shown are TELUS International Philippines human resources director Bodge Cabuenas with Richard Alvior, Charity first chairman of the board of trustees and Gregorio Uy Jr, Charity First president.**

## Nominate your 2011 Outstanding Filipino (Tofil) Online

NOMINATING YOUR BET TO BE Outstanding Filipino award is now just a few clicks away.

Simply visit www.tofil.ph and click on the "Nominate" button. On the Nominate page, choose "Like the 2011 Tofil Nomination Site". Write Tofil nominee info (name, birthdate, etc.) and sign up for free to create your account. After completing the sign-up procedure, you can now start nominating your 2011 Tofil awardee.

The Outstanding Filipino, also known as Tofil, awards a point person of the JCI Senate Philippines, and Junior Life. The awards program recognizes exemplary Filipinos, 18 years and above, who have excelled in their fields of endeavor and have contributed significantly to the upliftment of lives. In 2010, the six individuals who received the Tofil award were Dr. Esperanza Cabral, former Secretary of Social Welfare and Development; Dr. Antonio C. Pacificador Jr., Medicine and Fr. Jose F. Blanco, S.J., for Education; Jill Bacudio-Encabo, Creative Life Insecurities; Lito Ibarra-Cortez, Life Insecurities; and Gregorio Ong, Sports.

The online nomination is a three-step process to the awards program. It starts with the nomination of stories and submission of entries, and increases awareness of the awards program especially among the online community of Filipinos.

Deadline for submission of nominations is on Aug. 31, 2011. For more details, please visit www.tofil.ph. Browse also their Tofil Facebook (www.facebook.com/pages/The-Outstanding-Filipino-Tofil).

Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Diliman, Quezon City
Telefax: 925-3095 / 929-0102

**INVITATION TO BID**

The Commission on Human Rights (CHR) through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites interested parties to bid for the following:

**LOT – A**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DESCRIPTION | : | PROVISION OF SECURITY SERVICE |
| LOCATION | : | CHR-G.F. Complex, Commonwealth Ave., Diliman, Q.C. |
| NUMBER OF SECURITY GUARDS | : | Ten (10) |
| APPROVED BUDGET | : | Php 2.3 M |
| CONTRACT DURATION | : | July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2014 |
| ISSUANCE OF BIDDING DOCUMENTS | : | June 7, 2011 |
| PRE-BID CONFERENCE | : | June 9, 2011, 9:30 a.m., CHR-Conference Room |
| SUBMISSION & OPENING OF BIDS | : | June 21, 2011, 10:30 a.m., CHR-Conference Room |

Bid documents shall be issued upon payment of a non-refundable amount of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php1,500.00). The Bidding documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

**LOT – B**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DESCRIPTION | : | PROVISION OF JANITORIAL SERVICE |
| LOCATION | : | CHR-G.F. Complex, Commonwealth Ave., Diliman, Q.C. |
| NUMBER OF JANITORS | : | Ten (10) |
| APPROVED BUDGET | : | Php 1.8M |
| CONTRACT DURATION | : | July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2014 |
| ISSUANCE OF BIDDING DOCUMENTS | : | June 7, 2011 |
| PRE-BID CONFERENCE | : | June 9, 2011, 2:00 p.m., CHR-Conference Room |
| SUBMISSION & OPENING | : | June 22, 2011, 10:30 a.m., CHR-Conference Room |

Bid documents shall be issued upon payment of a non-refundable amount of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php1,500.00). The Bidding documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

Interested parties are required to submit a Letter of Interest and a photocopy of their Registration of Business Name/Philippine Constitution of Incorporation (with original for authentication) before payment for bid document is made.

All particulars and other queries regarding the invitation to Bid shall be discussed and cleared at the scheduled Pre-bid conference of the agency. All bidders are invited to attend.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all bids/eligibility statements, to declare a failure of bidding/if there is, among others, reasons to waive any requirement/s in the bid/s received and to accept the bid most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) JACQUELINE B. VILLOSA MEJIA
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PHI May 29, 2011)


POWERMAX

EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE

APPLYING LABOR LAW and PRACTICAL TIPS & TECHNIQUES

May 31, 2011 • 8:30am - 5:30pm
Crowne Plaza Galleria, Ortigas Center

A MUST ATTEND Seminar Before Initiating Any Disciplinary Measure
Discover TIPS, TRICKS and TECHNIQUES
that can SAVE You Headaches and Huge Expenses

COURSE OUTLINE

MORNING SESSION (8:30am - 12:00pm)
What Employers Need to Know About Employee Discipline
- The Constitutional Provisions Affecting Labor
- Statutory Provisions on Labor
- Employment Relationship
- The Management Rights and Prerogatives
- The Rights of Workers

AFTERNOON SESSION (1:00pm - 5:00pm)
Employee Discipline
- Procedural Due Process
- Termination by the Employer
- Constructive Dismissal
- Preventive Suspension
- Tips on Employee Discipline
- Incidence After Termination

RESOURCE SPEAKER

Atty. Amor Perdigon
- Attorney and Counselor at Law
- Director and General Counsel of the Bottlers Employees' Savings and Loans Association Inc.
- Legal Consultant - Veterans Memorial Center
- Past Positions:
  Deputy General Counsel for Regional Affairs of the Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines, Inc.
  Corporate Attorney of the Philippine Tourism Authority

SEMINAR INVESTMENT (Inclusive of seminar kit, certificate and snacks)

EARLY BIRD RATE (until May 14)
Whole Program: Php 1,995 + VAT
Per Module: Php 1,000 + VAT

REGULAR RATE (Starting May 15)
Whole Program: Php 2,495 + VAT
Per Module: Php 1,000 + VAT

GROUP RATE (3 pax or more)
Whole Program: Php 2,195 + VAT
Per Module: Php 1,000 + VAT

Manila Bulletin | BusinessMirror | The Philippine Star | abante

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RESERVATION, CONTACT
POWERMAX CONSULTING GROUP, INC.
Look for LYNI at
470-1254 to 55
0948-498-9814
0923-303-3367
info@powermaxph.com
www.powermaxph.com
POWERMAX

Republic of the Philippines
**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT**
Regional Office No. IVA
[illegible]
Santa Rosa, (049) 541-0000
May 25, 2011

## NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT (AEP)

Notice is hereby given that the following company/establishment have filed with the Regional Office applications for Alien Employment Permits:

| Name and Address of Company/Employer | Name and Citizenship of Foreign National | Duties and/or Description of Position |
|---|---|---|
| 1. [illegible] | Mr. [illegible] | President |
| 2. [illegible] | Mr. [illegible] | Senior Director, Head of Corporate Affairs and Investor & Media Relations |
| 3. [illegible] | Mr. [illegible] | Country Manager |
| 4. [illegible] | Mr. [illegible] | Director |
| 5. [illegible] | Mr. [illegible] | Consultant for technical services |
| 6. [illegible] | Mr. [illegible] | Consultant for technical services |
| 7. [illegible] | Mr. [illegible] | Consultant for technical services |
| 8. [illegible] | Mr. [illegible] | Director |

If you have any information bearing on the above mentioned applications please communicate with the Regional Director.

ATTY. RICARDO S. MARTINEZ JR., CESO III
Regional Director

# PROPERTIES FOR FORECLOSURE AUCTION

Our Group of Companies invites everyone to bid at the public auctions for the foreclosure sale of the following properties:

| TCT No. | Location | Type | Lead Area (in sq.m. unless noted) | Amended Mortgage Bid (Php) | Date and Time of Auction | Place of Auction |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| [illegible] | Located within Barangay Halcon-2, Brgy. San Juan, Municipality of San Miguel, Province of Bulacan. The site is approximately 200 meters west from San Juan Brgy. Chapel, some 680 meters southeast from the corner of Municipal and Magsaysay Roads in the vicinity of San Miguel Municipal Hall. | Residential Land | 140 lots | 30,000,000 | June 06, 2011 10:00 a.m. | Inhouse of the Office in Office Sheriff of Bulacan |

Subdivision Gate

Phase 3A

Phase 3B

Phase 3C

Vicinity Map

All properties are to be sold on "close 'AS-IS-WHERE-IS' basis". Interested bidders are advised to conduct an independent evaluation of the property through title verification and investigation of the physical and legal condition of the property prior to the auction dates.

For further information, please contact us at (02) 911-1700 or send an e-mail to: foreclosureproperties@bdogroupph.com

# INVITATION TO BID

The CITY GOVERNMENT OF [illegible] invites PHILSTEX registered contractors to submit their sealed bids for the following items:

| Name of Projects | Approved Budget for the Contract | Location | Duration | Price of Bid Documents (in P1,000.00) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. [illegible] | P [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | P [illegible] |
| 2. [illegible] | P [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| 3. [illegible] | P [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| 4. [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |

Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Office of the City Bids and Awards Committee and inspect the Bidding Documents from [illegible] during working days at the [illegible]. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be acquired by interested bidders on the said date upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount stated above.

It is hereby informed that all bidders must be registered with the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) and submit valid PCAB License and Certificate of Registration and Membership for the current year.

The City Government of [illegible] reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding or not award the contract without incurring any liability, and assumes no obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for its action.

[illegible]
City Engineer

# NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Philippine British Assurance Co., Inc. (the "Corporation") has discovered that the following items are missing:

1. Missing Bond Forms:
   - Application Bond (CJ) [illegible]
   - Performance Bond (CJ) [illegible]
   - Surety Bond (CJ) [illegible]
   - Supersedeas Bond (CJ) [illegible]
2. Judicial Bond forms:
   - Performance Bond [illegible]
   - Surety Bond [illegible]

Kindly be informed that all transactions involving these forms will not be honored by the Corporation. If you have any information about these forms, please get in touch with Ms. Marilyn T. Estanislao at Telephone Nos. [illegible]

(sgd.)
[illegible]

# NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given that Edita V. Ongkiko, whose picture appears above is temporarily not authorized to represent or transact on behalf of Philippine British Assurance Co., Inc. (the "Corporation") from May 18, 2011 to June 17, 2011. Kindly be informed that all transactions entered into by said person on behalf of the Corporation during said period will not be honored.

(sgd.) [illegible]
[illegible]

# NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

That RODEL B. PERALTA is no longer authorized to transact business in behalf of MPP West Import Corporation with office address at Mangaldan - Light Industrial Park, Anonang Rodriguez, Ams., Pasig City. Any transaction or representation entered into by the person shall not be honored effective immediately pending resolution of this administrative case. For questions and/or clarifications contact the National Sales Manager with cell (63) 9475551/ 9475575.

The Management

**3RD FCI ASIA PACIFIC CANINE CONGRESS**

In keeping with one of its thrusts to foster mutual cooperation and understanding in the promotion of dog sports and related conveniences in the region, the Federacion Canina Internationale Asia Pacific Section holds its 3rd Congress in Kaohsiung Taiwan. Malaysia with delegates from Malaysia, Korea China, Taiwan, Japan and the Philippines in attendance. Hosted by the Taiwan Kennel Association (TAKA), the congress was presided over by FCI (Spain) president, Dr. Jose Alberto Fernandez Pelle (seated, middle) and Henry Q. Belmes Jr. (seated, fourth from left), head of FCI Asia Pacific Section and chairman/president of the Asian Kennel Club Union of the Philippines Inc. (AKCUP).

**SEMINAR IN DISASTER MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOP AT ALGON RESORT**

The seminar workshop was a success when world renowned speakers Dr/s. Lourdes Gabriela Ignacio (PAMPRI) World Association for Psychosocial Rehabilitation President and Dr. Salvador Benjamin D. Vicu (TADH) Medical Director for The Academy of Hope, Critical Incident Stress Management and Psychosocial Processing was successfully held on May 7-8, 2011 at Algon Resort. Due to numerous public demand there will be a re-run of the said course by the end of 4th quarter. For inquiries, please call Algon Plaza / The Academy of Hope, Brgy. Mampuyod, Cabanatuan, Laguna, (02) 584-4381 or (02) 889-3451 / (044) 515-5005; (044) 501-2297. Please visit our website at www.academyofhope.com.ph / www.algonresort.com.ph

**KOALA'S MARCH JOINS NICK WORLD**

It was a joyous afternoon filled with fun and games as kids from all over trooped to the Bonifacio Global City Open Field in Taguig City behind the MRT. Here to witness the opening of Nick World, popular cartoon kiddie channel Nickelodeon's way of thanking its thousands of Filipino fans. All the well-known Nickelodeon characters, which include Dora the Explorer, Spongebob, and Penguins of Madagascar, were present to give kids a day they won't easily forget. Koala's March, a popular bite-sized cookie with delicious premium chocolate or chocolate filling inside, was one of the major sponsors of the event. Koala's March put up special activities for the kids where they put up street photo booth where visitors can have their photos taken with Koala's March mascots. Here, Koala's March sample products were also given to booth visitors and special Koala's March Family Gift Packs were given as prizes to lucky winners of the Penguins of Madagascar's Crowded Path, one of the featured games during Nick World. Shown in photo are names during the Nick World event. Koala's March is distributed in the Philippines by Lotte Confectionary Philphos Corp.

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to the Amended Housing Reserve Fee forecast five years, from 2010 to 2015. Php 840/sq.m registered an average growth rate of 11% in terms of housing units purchased or constructed. "And we expect the amount to maintain its constant growth rate. Go for this year, Php 840/sq.m allocated a budget of P10 billion for housing finance alone," the CEO pointed out.

Pag-IBIG Fund has also been consistently profitable, making it one of the best performing financial institutions in the country today, private or government. "For 2010, we have declared P1.202 billion in total dividends, which shall be credited to our members' total savings proportionately. The amount is approximately 11% of our 2010 income."

"We are currently working out the policies and procedures, but CEO doesn't want to be involved in [such] a housing loan scandal, especially for those who are at the Pag-IBIG Fund," the CEO said.

Lawyer Bello also added, "Housing provisions to ensure our core mandate, savings generation being the other one and other 10 percent for the members, our mortgage account comprises 90% of the entire industry's loan portfolio, making us the country's premier housing fund. We take pride in our role in helping make every Filipino worker's dream of owning their own home a reality."

RDMP is committing to the one-year barge outbound of the slowly increasing

StarTek

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# Now Hiring

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Customer Care Representatives - Chat (Ortigas)

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Also Hiring for Business Support Roles: see more at www.startek.com/careers

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NAPT

WANTED

## FIRE TRAINING OFFICER

Doha, Qatar

National Academy for Professional Training is an academy of excellence based in The State of Qatar providing aprofessional training and consultation service to the Oil & Gas Industry, Maritime Industry, Aviation Industry, Construction Industry, Commercial Sector, Security Sector, Government Sector and Military Forces. Our academy is currently expanding and seeking suitable professionals to fulfill the post of Fire Training Officer. Suitable candidates must have:

- Minimum of Five (5) Years Fire Fighting Experience
- Fire Fighter I & II IFSAC
- Fire Instructor I (Minimum) Preference to I & II (IFSAC)
- Hazardous Materials Awareness and Technician (IFSAC)
- Driver Pump Operator (IFSAC)
- Leadership Skills

Further experience with standards such as OPITO and any further knowledge related to Maritime Course Modules an advantage in selection process.

Attractive salary package depending on qualifications, accommodation provided and benefits as per Qatar Labor Laws.

If you meet above criteria, kindly send your detailed resume along with your employment & school credentials to: fmwhri@yahoo.com or fmwhri@pldtdsl.com

FMW Human Resources International

License No. POEA 845-LR-010711-R

Suite – 304 Palic House II Condotelium
# 21 EDSA, Guadalupe, Makati City, Philippines

Tel No. 882-4508
Fax No. 882-1100

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Be part of the agency in its mission of facilitating competitive business environment and at the same time protecting consumers' rights, as it invites high-caliber, proactive, and service-oriented individuals to apply for the position of:

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER V**

General Services Division, General Administrative Service (GAS)
(Permanent Position, Head Office)

The Administrative Officer V (AO5) is a critical position responsible for the efficient delivery of general administrative support to the various bureaus and offices of the Department.

Job Characteristics

1. Under direction, plans, directs and supervises the following activities: procurement, supplies and equipment allocation, building and office maintenance, records management, cash management, motor pool, and other related services;
2. Gives inputs and advises the GAS Director on certain administrative policies based on existing rules and regulations;
3. Assists in the implementation of guidelines and procedures related to the delivery of general administrative services;
4. Provides administrative advisory to Directors and to department personnel;
5. Performs other tasks as delegated.

Core Requisites

1. Masteral degree holder, major study in public administration, management, business, or other related fields of study;
2. Civil Service Professional (2nd level eligibility);
3. Four (4) years in position involving management and supervision;
4. With 24 hours training in management and supervision;
5. Excellent analytical skills with strong attention to details;
6. Well-versed in project/work flow documentation particularly in Quality Management System or ISO System;
7. Excellent oral and written communication skills;
8. Possesses strong supervisory and leadership skills;
9. Flexible and able to work in a multi-tasking environment;
10. Demonstrates sound work ethics and possesses managerial integrity.

Interested applicants may send the following:

- Comprehensive Resume or Curriculum Vitae
- Copy of Transcript of Records (Both for Undergraduate and Masteral degrees)
- Copy of Civil Service (Professional) Eligibility
- 1 copy of 2 x 2 ID picture on or before

**07 June 2011**

to:

Human Resource Development and Personnel Services (HRDPS)

361 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

Or email to:

hrdcbfd@yahoo.com